

# Westminster & City News

Established 1857, part of the London Weekly News group

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TUESDAY MARCH 7 2017

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## HELP TRACE LAST OF THE D-DAY HEROES



Sadiq Khan is leading a new city-wide campaign to get Londoners to leg it by refusing to use a chauffeur-driven limo. Although other mayors in the capital have official use of a Roller, the mayor of London is setting a best-foot-forward example to do the walk of life by preferring to use Shanks's pony. And his team has calculated that if every Londoner follows in Mr Khan's footsteps, walking or cycling for 20 minutes a day, it would save the NHS £1.7 billion in treatment costs over the next 25 years. Whereas the Lord Mayor of London has a Rolls Royce Phantom for ceremonial use and the mayor of Kensington and Chelsea has access to a Bentley, simple-stepping Mr Khan has opted to rely on his plates of meat instead as he promotes his vision to kick-start the health campaign – a cause that is close to his heart as, like thousands of other Londoners, he suffers from asthma worsened by the city's polluted air

FULL STORY ON PAGE 11

## Capital's cash-crisis dilemma with Met

Unless government pays more for policing, city will face dire consequences

BY GEOFF BAKER  
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDONERS are facing a cash crisis dilemma with the Met – unless the government pays more for policing, the city will face dire consequences of cuts which will weaken the already-thin blue line by a 10th.

Following a critical report on the state of the Met by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, the force has hit back with a blunt message – “We’re trying our hardest but what do you expect on this shoestring?”.

As the Met faces a further throttling of its budget which could see the force which is already 700 detectives short now slashed by up to 3,000 officers, top cops backed by Sadiq Khan are warning that public safety will be put at risk if the government cash cuts keep coming.

The police watchdog's annual assessment of the Met claims it is not up to scratch at keeping people safe, especially the vulnerable like children, the elderly, the disabled and the mentally ill.

The HMIC report claims: “The Metropolitan Police Service re-

quires improvement in respect of its effectiveness at keeping people safe and reducing crime.

“Our overall judgment is the same as last year. The force works hard to prevent crime and antisocial behaviour but its inadequate approach to keeping vulnerable people safe is a cause of concern to HMIC.

“The quality of some investigations and its management of offenders also require improvement. Its response to gangs is impressive but its wider approach to tackling serious and organised crime requires improvement.”

HM inspector Zoe Billingham, the author of the report, said: “We’re the Inspectorate of Constabulary, we don’t use language like this usually, but we’re talking about a national crisis in a shortage of detectives. The Metropolitan Police is 700 detectives down and is struggling to recruit detectives”.

But the Met argues that it is in desperate need of more money and officers have been overstretched in dealing with the increasing threat of a terrorist attack on the capital.

The Met says it is “surprised”

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### Kasia keeps you fit and healthy

MEET Kasia Poremna, a yoga teacher, former architect and interior designer, who has lived in West London for 18 years. Kasia owns and runs The Flying Yogi (TFY), a boutique studio offering yoga and pilates classes.



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 **Chelsea Fabrics**



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# Shepherd's Bush

## CHRONICLE

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## HELP TRACE LAST OF THE D-DAY HEROES



Scottish folk band Stornoway will perform for the last time in London this weekend as their farewell tour arrives in Shepherd's Bush. The four-piece are calling it quits after 12 years together – but they are giving fans one last chance to see them live. Friday's show at the O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire will be the band's final stop before rounding off the tour in their hometown of Oxford. Tickets for Friday's gig have already sold out



## 'Let's make capital a zero suicide city'

Health chiefs urge action by mayor following alarming figures from borough

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

HEALTH chiefs have urged London mayor Sadiq Khan to create a "zero suicide city" after official figures revealed record numbers of people taking their own life in Hammersmith and Fulham.

The borough's suicide rate – one of the highest in the capital – is now around 25 per cent above the London average, according to data from the Office for National Statistics.

Latest records suggest as many as 14 Londoners are taking their own life every week, with the number of deaths by suicide rising by a third between 2014 and 2015.

City Hall health officials have called for urgent action to reduce the "alarming" increase in suicide deaths.

The London Assembly's health committee said the mayor should

work towards creating a "zero suicide city" where Londoners are able to talk about their problems and seek appropriate support.

Dr Onkar Sahota, chairman of the committee, said: "It is shocking that every week an average of 14 Londoners choose to end their own life."

"Every death is a personal tragedy and has devastating effects not just on family and friends but also on the wider health service."

Between 2014 and 2015, the most recent available data, the number of suicides in London leapt from 552 to 735 – the highest figure for a single year since records began.

Men remain the most likely to take their own life, with only a quarter of suicide cases in London involving women.

But the committee warned that other groups in society are also at high risk, including young people who have been in care, victims of

abuse, people leaving the Armed Forces, members of the LGBT+ community and people with mental-health problems.

Dr Sahota said: "What is particularly alarming is how the number of suicides in London has grown over the years."

"The mayor of London promised to take action on preventing suicide in London in his manifesto and we urge him to do everything in his power to deliver on this. London urgently needs to become a 'zero suicide' city."

According to the ONS data, a total of 182 people took their own life in Hammersmith and Fulham between 2005 and 2015.

As a proportion of overall population, this is among the highest in the capital.

London Assembly research found that inner London boroughs were particularly prone to high suicide rates, with Camden, Isling-

ton and Southwark also recording levels above the London average.

London Weekly News has campaigned to improve suicide prevention as part of the Change Is Possible mental-health appeal.

Working with the mental-health charity Mind, this newspaper has highlighted the work of the Maytree suicide respite centre, which offers a short residential stay for Londoners in the grips of a suicidal crisis.

The campaign has also profiled a new musical about suicide, *Catch Me*, which opened in the West End in November.

National charity the Campaign Against Living Miserably provides a suicide helpline, currently funded by the tri-borough partnership between Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and the City of Westminster.

For information about the charity, visit thecalmzone.net.

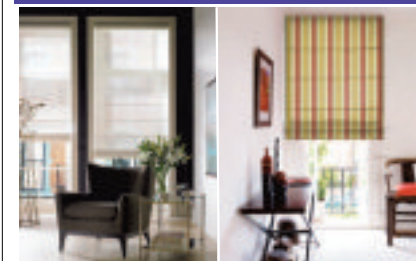
### Kasia keeps you fit and healthy

MEET Kasia Poremna, a yoga teacher, former architect and interior designer, who has lived in West London for 18 years. Kasia owns and runs The Flying Yogi (TFY), a boutique studio offering yoga and pilates classes.

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### Chelsea Fabrics



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 Nicky Sweetland reviews *The Girls* – page 19

# Mayor hails capital's new 'jewel' as Chelsea stadium is given green light

**BY JACK DIXON**

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LONDON mayor Sadiq Khan has approved Chelsea Football Club's plans for a £500 million new stadium.

Plans for the revamped Stamford Bridge will boost the club's matchday capacity by more than 18,000 – from 41,600 to 60,000. It will also include an elevated walkway over the nearby District Line, linking the stadium to Fulham Broadway station.

The mayor said he is satisfied that the new stadium is a "high-quality and spectacular design".

Chelsea's proposal was given the green light by Ham-

smith and Fulham council's planning committee in January.

The club's application also includes an investment of £12 million in the local community, as well as a contribution of £3.75 million towards affordable housing in the borough.

The mayor said: "London is one of the world's greatest sporting cities and I'm delighted that we will soon add Chelsea's new stadium to the already fantastic array of sporting arenas in the capital."

"Having taken a balanced

view of the application, I'm satisfied this is a high-quality and spectacular design, which will significantly increase capacity within the existing site, as well as ensuring fans can have easy access from nearby transport connections.

"I'm confident this new stadium will be a jewel in London's sporting crown and will attract visitors and football fans from around the world."

The new stadium has been designed by architects Herzog and de Meuron – who also drew

up plans for the iconic Birds Nest stadium in Beijing and the widely acclaimed Allianz Arena in Munich.

Yesterday's decision paves the way for one of the country's biggest sporting complexes.

The current Stamford Bridge will be demolished before work begins on the club's new home at some point over the next three years. Roman Abramovich, Chelsea's billionaire owner, is expected to fork out around £500 million to cover the cost of the project.

## Club puts parents and their pre-teenage kids on same page

**D**URING their children's unruly teenage years, parents often find it hard to connect with their offspring. While some say this is "all part of growing up", others believe mothers and fathers must do more to help their kids understand the world.

The growing divide has been particularly noticeable to Elise Pacquette, a mother of two, from Shepherd's Bush.

She is the brains behind Bridging the Gap, an interactive after-school club designed to put parents and their pre-teen children on the same page.

Elise has worked with hundreds of parents since launching the initiative in 2013, offering a six-week course for those who feel out of touch with their children. With youngsters facing the stress of school and the pangs of puberty, she says the key ingredi-



Elise Pacquette outside Ark Burlington Danes Academy

ent in any parent-child relationship is fun.

"Before I started my company I did some research and found out that kids simply wanted to have more fun with their parents," she explains.

"They get home from school and are told to do their homework, tidy their bedroom and make sure their PE kit it is packed for the next day."

Several schools in Hammersmith and Fulham are now offering the Bridging the Gap course for Year 7 and Year 8 pupils and their parents at the end of the working day.

It was launched at the Ark Burlington Danes Academy in 2014 before expanding to the nearby Phoenix Academy.

New courses were given the go-ahead at the Masbro Centre in

Shepherd's Bush and the Parkview Centre for Health and Wellbeing in White City last month.

The sessions focus on building bonds between parents and their pre-teen children, helping them to become more independent, developing money-management skills and learning how to be safe online.

Other aspects of the programme include understanding how media and peer pressure can influence self-perception, and developing emotional coping strategies for stressful situations.

Elise, who has collected a string of industry awards for her work, says she wants to help "empower" parents to support the adults of tomorrow.

Her key tip for concerned mothers and fathers? *Make the effort to take the first step.*

"I realised the importance of engagement between children and their parents," she says.

"Your children won't care how much you know until they know how much you care."

Bridging the Gap, part of Elise's Funpact organisation, has won high praise from families – one described the sessions as their "golden family time together" – and the experts are also hugely impressed with Elise's contribution.

Sue Fennimore, Hammersmith and Fulham council's cabinet member for social inclusion, said there is "no other course like it in the country", providing a "fantastic helping hand" for struggling parents and their children.

She added: "I hope many more local families can benefit from the course in the future."

For more information about Bridging the Gap, you can visit funpact.org.

## Contacting your council

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# YouTube star's battle to save youth centre



THE star of YouTube hit *Chicken Shop Date* is campaigning to keep open the youth centre where she created the show.

Amelia Dimoldenberg started the internet dating sensation, which attracts more than 500,000 fans, four years ago while involved in *The Cut* magazine, a youth project at The Stowe Centre in Royal Oak which is now being threatened with closure amid funding cuts from the Conservative-led council.

Amelia, 22, grew up in nearby Edgware Road, and credits *The Cut* – which has already closed after funding was cut completely – with kickstarting her career in journalism.

She said: "I started *Chicken Shop Date* when I was 18 and working on *The Cut*. That magazine was the only reason I was able to start the show and we were allowed to write about anything, we had a lot of freedom.

"The Stowe Centre provides space for young people, which is so valuable. You can go somewhere and do different projects, and a lot of people in the area don't have that space outside home otherwise.

"Some young people might not have a welcoming home environment, but

at the Stowe you could just hang out with friends outside your flat where people are living on top of each other. It's invaluable to get out of the house and when spaces like The Stowe are forced to shut down, where does that leave young people? Maybe on a street corner, causing trouble."

Amelia, who is a final-year fashion journalism student at Central Saint Martins, says the magazine inspired her to pursue a career in journalism. Her YouTube channel has almost 40,000 subscribers, with some of her videos hitting 500,000 views. She hoped its success could help draw attention to The Stowe Centre's plight.

Westminster council stopped funding all the borough's youth services last September, and locals fear The Stowe may be forced to shut its doors for good.

Amelia, whose father is Labour councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, said: "The *Cut* magazine gave me all the opportunities I have today. It sadly doesn't exist any more but it seems so simple that to create great, strong adults you have to be able to give them facilities as young people.

"It was a place to hang out with peo-

ple my age and we had all the facilities we needed. We had amazing mentors, our own office, a photography studio and recording equipment and everything we needed to run a legitimate magazine. I don't know where else we could have done that.

"It's so obvious that disenfranchised young people grow up to be adults without opportunities and end up in bad situations, and this just seems unfortunate. Westminster council don't seem to care about poor young people."

Cllr Richard Holloway, Westminster cabinet member for children, families and young people, said: "Our priority is to protect the most vulnerable in our society, including young people.

"As we deal with shrinking budgets we are looking at new and creative ways to maximise our resources. We have had to take some difficult decisions on youth clubs but the establishment of the Young Westminster Foundation will allow us to raise funds in new and innovative ways, linking with local businesses, through their corporate social responsibility plans, to support vulnerable children and young people."

## Cops hunt 'honey snatcher'

POLICE are hunting a blonde "honey snatcher" after a gold 19th-century ring was stolen from a man's finger as he hugged a woman he met in a Soho pub.

The cherished family heirloom was nicked after the man was approached by a blonde Italian woman in The Crown in Brewer Street. After a short time talking in the bar, the pair hugged before saying goodbye. Moments later the victim noticed that his 18-carat gold ring, which had been in the family for generations, was missing.

Police are now looking for a blonde Italian woman aged in her mid-30s who is suspected to have stolen the ring, which belonged to the victim's grandad.

The suspect is described by police as white, approximately 5ft 4in tall with blonde hair and wearing a black furry coat with a belt and high collar.

# Get ready for rats



BY GEOFF BAKER

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WESTMINSTER councillors are warning that residents face a plague of rats and cockroaches if feared cuts in council spending cause the end of its pest-control service.

Labour councillors claim that leaked papers from a private meeting of Conservative Westminster councillors have revealed they are concealing the true problems with the authority's budget.

Opposition members say the council is in a "budget crisis" which could see it scrapping pest control as it looks to find some £30 million more in savings.

"The pest control service is under threat: it's not paying its way and the council doesn't have a legal requirement to have one," said Labour's budget spokesman, Cllr David Boothroyd, who has called on council leader Nickie Aiken for a pledge to ring-fence pest control.

"I asked the leader for a pledge to maintain it. She fell back on the old politicians' answer, 'We have no plans to end the pest-control service', and then said that the council would always continue to run its statutory service.

"That was an odd remark because the leaked briefing papers specifically say pest control is non-statutory.

"People need to know pest infestation will be tackled immediately and look to the council – with 50 years' experience – to help. Whatever changes are planned, a less effective service will mean health hazards for residents and businesses."

Labour councillors have been sent the presentation from a Conservative 'group seminar' on January 21 at which the incoming cabinet unveiled its budget to other Conservative councillors. The Conservatives revealed their agreed direction for the council includes "maximising commercial opportunities" and to "creatively finance while maintaining public probity".

A Labour spokesman said: "Comparing the private meeting papers with the published budget report agreed by the council's cabinet reveals that Conservative councillors were told several things in private which they didn't want to mention in public.

"Westminster council has to find £37 million savings next year but has only found £7 million so far.

"The Conservatives' strategy of increasing fees and charges is very risky but the risk has been downplayed. In private they admit 'an economic downturn could have a dramatic impact on the outturn'.

"Increasing council funds are having to be spent coping with the housing crisis, and government policy is making it worse.

"The pest-control service is under threat, delays in the council's capital building programme are making it uncertain and difficult to finance and even more cuts and charges are on their way in future years – even if the government stops cutting its grant.

Cllr Boothroyd added: "It's fascinating to see what the Westminster Tories tell themselves in private, but also deeply concerning. What does 'creatively finance while maintaining public probity' mean? It sounds like an admission that the council's financial antics are putting a strain on probity."

But the council is refusing to be drawn on future cuts in spending. Cllr Tim Mitchell, cabinet member for finance, property and corporate services, said: "Westminster City Council will have made £130 million savings between 2015 and 2018, while still delivering excellent services and the lowest band-D council tax in the country.

"We are able to do this because we meticulously plan our budgets and where we will spend taxpayers' money very carefully and prudently over months and years. No decisions will be taken about the 2018-19 budget until this time next year."

# City set for dire consequences

FROM PAGE 1

that the HMIC's report "makes no reference to budget challenges the service has faced and they do not reflect how these pressures lead to difficult prioritisation decisions to achieve the best for the public".

It added: "We are pleased that the HMIC have recognised the hard work of our officers and staff to keep people safe and to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour as reflected in the reduction in crime in London over the last five years.

"This report repeats the HMIC's concerns from their report that specifically focused on child protection in autumn 2016, and, as they acknowledged at the time, we already taking action to making changes to improve how we work with vulnerable people, including children.

"However, we do not agree with their overall view of the Met's effectiveness, particularly in relation to tackling organised crime, and it is a shame that they have not highlighted their own research showing a five per cent rise public satisfaction in the Met in just one year.

"We welcome recognition of its success in tackling organised crime which the HMIC describe as admirable in many respects and as impressive in relation to our work tackling gangs.

"We therefore do not agree with the overall judgement of effectiveness in this area. We continue to improve our intelligence sharing, and specialist detectives are being embedded with frontline colleagues to enhance our approach to tackle organised crime.

"We think the public recognise that London has faced a threat level at severe for the last two-and-a-half years, during which

period the Met has focused on preventing terrorist attacks.

"We have carried out significant work required to try to keep London safe in this period and it is a disappointing that this has barely been acknowledged in this report.

"Policing is a tough job – whatever the financial situation – and there are challenges which will face anyone who chooses to be an officer.

"But it is still a job that is attracting bright and motivated recruits who make rewarding careers fighting crime and protecting the vulnerable.

"The Metropolitan Police Service believes that all officers, whether serving in uniform or not, should be able to investigate crimes effectively and we train them accordingly.

"Detective recruitment and retention is being addressed as a priority but in an organisation as large and complex as ours, ensuring we have the right people in the right roles to deal with an ever-changing pattern of demand will always be very challenging, even more so in the current financial climate.

"The Met is tackling this issue with a range of initiatives including recruiting experienced former detectives to coach trainee detectives, and encouraging officers to become detectives through various routes into this career path.

"The Met has more officers than ever before taking the detective exam.

"However, we are not complacent and appreciate that the changing nature of policing means that demand for trained detectives is growing as a proportion of warranted officers.

"This is not an issue unique to London

but is a national one. Indeed London is the only force to have maintained officer numbers in the face of budget cuts. The status and role of the detective remains central to policing."

But now the Met is facing savage new cuts of £400 million, which could see the force's current strength of 32,000 reduced by up to 3,000 officers.

As Ken Marsh, chairman of the Met's Police Federation, warns: "I can't see how we can protect the streets in the same way as we do now with 2,500 to 3,000 fewer cops – that's a huge number and that would have a massive effect on all the departments within the Met", now the mayor of London has stepped in and is calling on Londoners and the capital's MPs to lobby the government to stop the cuts.

Sadiq Khan, who is increasing his funding of policing by £27.8 million this year to a total of £621.6 million, said: "The safety and protection of our capital city and all Londoners is my priority.

"This means keeping officer numbers as high as possible, with a strategic target of 32,000.

"But this is becoming increasingly difficult as the government continues to consistently underfund the Met. Ministers' refusal to reimburse Londoners for work already undertaken to police London as a global capital city is risking the safety of all Londoners.

"I urge MPs to join me in making the case for London in the strongest terms, and join me once again in calling on the government to rethink their decision not to provide the funds we need to keep London safe."



## New help with mental health

NEW help is to be made available for people in Hammersmith and Fulham who experience mental-health problems.

The West London Alliance Mental Health and Employment Trailblazer service has been launched to support those suffering from issues such as depression and anxiety.

The service integrates employment support and talking therapies to help people find sustainable work in their field.

Experts say the service will improve quality of life and enable those with mental-health problems to be more independent.

## LED street lights on way

A NEW set of environmentally friendly street lights are set to be rolled out across Hammersmith and Fulham.

The LED lamps, which use less energy and produce more natural white light, will replace all street lights in the borough by April 2018.

The lamps require much less electricity to operate and have an extremely long life span compared to traditional lights.

Work has already begun on installing the lights, with the project due for completion in the spring.

## QPR celebrate unsung heroes

QUEENS Park Rangers Football Club will celebrate unsung heroes in Hammersmith and Fulham with a special event at Loftus Road.

The club is hosting a community day to recognise the efforts of local teachers, firefighters, police officers and NHS staff.

Invited guests will be honoured during a half-time presentation at the game against Rotherham United on March 18.

Fans have also been asked to nominate their own unsung heroes to take part, with a select few being honoured on the pitch.

## Commemorate the Great War

GRANTS of up to £10,000 are being made available to help community groups commemorate the First World War.

The Heritage Lottery Fund will hand out £2 million to projects across the country this year and is encouraging applicants to come forward.

The funding boost is part of ongoing commemorations to mark the war's 100th anniversary. For more information on how to apply, visit [hlf.org.uk](http://hlf.org.uk) or follow @heritagelottery on Twitter.

## Death crash

POLICE have launched a probe after an elderly pedestrian was knocked down and killed by a suspected hit-and-run driver in Hammersmith.

The man, 81, was struck by a silver BMW 5-series near the Olympia centre at around 9.30pm on Saturday. He died in hospital on Sunday.

Scotlan Yard said the driver failed to stop at the scene and abandoned the car in nearby Stanwick Road.

# £1m Lottery jackpot to aid community

A £1 MILLION Lottery jackpot is to be pumped into community projects after a mystery winner from Hammersmith and Fulham ran out of time to claim the winnings.

The ticket holder picked the right numbers but failed to come forward and collect the seven-figure prize before the deadline expired on February 23.

National Lottery bosses were able to trace the winning ticket to a machine in Hammersmith and Fulham but failed to find the secret millionaire.

A total of 27 winners were picked out in a special Lotto draw to celebrate the achievements of Team GB at the Rio Olympics last year.

Most came forward to claim their prize – but the West London millionaire could not be found.

The search prompted members of the London Corinthian Sailing Club in Hammersmith to take to the Thames in a bid to track down the mystery winner.

But the National Lottery confirmed last week that the dead-



Members of the London Corinthian Sailing Club took to the waves in a last-ditch effort to find the winner last month

line has now passed with no sign of the borough's secret millionaire.

Andy Carter, a winners' adviser at the National Lottery, said: "We tried very hard to find the ticket holder and it's a real shame that they have missed out. But there is still one winner

– the nation. This money, and all the interest earned over the 180 days, will now go to benefit projects all over the UK funded by the National Lottery."

More than 1,000 community projects in Hammersmith and Fulham have benefited from National Lottery funding since 1994.

# Tumble-dryer blaze: firm in U-turn on safety advice

BY JACK DIXON

[jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk)

THE company whose faulty tumble dryer was found to have sparked a huge fire in Shepherd's Bush has backtracked on its safety advice and urged owners to unplug their machines.

Whirlpool's U-turn follows a major awareness campaign led by the London Fire Brigade.

The white-goods manufacturer had previously told customers that tumble dryers due for repair could still be used if closely monitored.

But the company's official advice was met with outrage by fire-safety experts and consumer champions Which?

Last week Whirlpool finally changed its safety advice, telling customers with faulty dryers not to use their appliances.

It came after a review carried out by trading standards urged the company to update its safety advice.

A notice on Whirlpool's website said: "Trading standards have notified us that updated usage advice should be communicated to affected customers."

"If your tumble dryer is affected by this issue then you should unplug it and do not use it until the modification has taken place."



The blaze at Shepherd's Court last August gutted two apartments

The U-turn was welcomed by campaigners as an important step that could save lives.

Dan Daly, the London Fire Brigade's assistant commissioner for fire safety, said crews attend hundreds of fires involving white goods every year.

He said: "This change of advice could save lives and we are extremely relieved that, after six months of campaigning by the brigade, Whirlpool has finally brought its advice in line with our own."

The fire risk posed by faulty dryers was brought to light last August when a blaze broke out at a tower block in Shepherd's Bush.

The building was evacuated as the flames spread across five floors and gutted two apartments.

No-one suffered serious injuries but dozens of residents had to spend several nights in emergency accommodation and lost a

number of possessions. An investigation later confirmed that the fire had been caused by an Indesit dryer that was subject to "corrective action".

The findings prompted a high-profile campaign led by the brigade, Which?, local MP Andy Slaughter and Hammersmith and Fulham council.

More than 70,000 people signed a petition calling on the manufacturer to change its official advice after it suggested the potentially dangerous appliances were still safe to use.

Cllr Sue Fennimore, Hammersmith and Fulham council's cabinet member for social inclusion, said: "The question needs to be asked why this action was not taken when the risks were already known and before the home-destroying and life-threatening fire in Shepherd's Bush last August."

"We will only be fully satisfied when Whirlpool comply with the London Fire Brigade's Total Recalls campaign to make white goods safer and there are improvements to the national products safety system."

Whirlpool customers who own an Indesit, Hotpoint, Swan or Creda tumble dryer that is subject to "corrective action" are advised not to use it until repairs are carried out.

# Revamped theatre offering free tours

THE countdown to the long-awaited relaunch of the Bush Theatre has begun, with less than two weeks to go before the doors are thrown open once again.

The popular Shepherd's Bush venue is due to start a new chapter in its history on March 18 as members of the public are invited inside for the first time in a year.

Theatre bosses have been hard at work over the last 12 months having closed the Uxbridge Road venue in February 2016 for a £4.3 million refurbishment.

This month's reopening will mark the completion of the theatre's biggest ever revamp as it seeks to cement its place among the capital's elite performance venues.

The redeveloped building will include a brand new entrance and front-of-house area, with an outside garden terrace leading to the main street.

It is set to trigger a significant boost for the Bush, with audience numbers expected to triple over the next six years.

Madani Younis, pictured, the Bush's artistic director, has driven the theatre's ambitious redevelopment.

He says the new look will help to create his vision of a theatre that reflects the diversity and vibrancy of London.

Speaking to *London Weekly News* last year, he said: "With the global political context shifting and the emergence of pervasive right-wing politics, it is more important than ever that artists and theatres agitate as well as entertain."

"With the redevelopment of our building, we are proud to be able to embrace new voices, who will breathe life into this remarkable building."

"It is their stories of joy, love, anger and most of all hope that will inspire a new generation of audiences."

The Bush is set to come back with a bang in 2017. Between April and November, the theatre will present three new commissions, three world premieres, two European premieres and one production that will tour nationwide.

Highlights include a production of *Guards At The Taj*, by Pulitzer Prize finalist Rajiv Joseph, followed by the first European production of *Hir* by Taylor Mac.

As part of the Bush's commitment to diversity, half of the entire 2017 programme will be based on works by black, Asian, minority ethnic and refugee writers.

Mr Younis previously told *London Weekly News*: "With the political climate being what it is, I think it's important that our cultural venues speak of the stories that we are not seeing represented across the medium more widely."

The Bush Theatre reopens on Saturday March 18 at 1pm, with free tours of the building running throughout the afternoon.

# Council 'compassion'

THE leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council has hailed a "compassionate" budget after signing off town-hall spending plans for the next year.

Cllr Stephen Cowan said freezing council tax and cutting charges would ease the financial burden on residents.

The budget was agreed at a full council meeting on February 22, despite opposition from Conservative members. It includes a commitment to keep the council's share of council tax at its current level – although an increase in the mayor of London's charge will mean bills going up overall.

Councillors have also set out plans to invest an extra £3.4 million into adult social care while cutting fees for market traders in Lyric Square and North End Road.

Cllr Cowan said: "It's not just a smarter budget – it's a more compassionate budget. We want to be the best council at tackling poverty, the best at reducing crime and antisocial behaviour and to be the best place to do business in Europe."

The council-tax freeze comes despite the government enabling local authorities to raise bills by up to four per cent. For the average band-D taxpayer, it means that the council's share of the charge will be set at £727.81 for the year.

The authority says council-tax bills in Hammersmith and Fulham will be the third-lowest in the UK in 2017. But Conservative councillors criticised the Labour administration for "hypocrisy and broken promises".

Cllr Greg Smith, leader of the opposition, said: "This is a sad state of affairs. Labour are failing our borough."



# Roadworks set to bring 'significant disruption'

DRIVERS have been warned to expect several months of delays on one of the main routes into Fulham ahead of a new phase of repair work that is set to bring more traffic misery.

National Grid is planning to close the westbound lane of Fulham Road between Beaufort Street and Gunter Grove for certain periods while urgent construction work is carried out. It has warned of "significant disruption" in the area and urged drivers to plan ahead.

The work is scheduled to start in May and could take until September to complete.

National Grid says it needs to upgrade an old metal gas main, which runs underneath Gunter Grove, along Fulham Road past the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital all the way to the junction with Beaufort Street.

Workers will replace the main with new pipes made of more durable material.

A spokesman for National Grid

said: "Where possible temporary traffic signals will be used to minimise the time and extent of the road closure."

"It is likely there will be significant disruption in the area so it will be important to allow more time for journeys."

All shops and businesses will remain open as usual during the work and National Grid has promised to "make every effort" to minimise inconvenience for residents. It says the work is "crucial".



# Rise in women bankers 'could help avoid financial crashes'

BY MARK WAHORN

MORE women are needed in The City because too many male bankers are too bally, a new reports claims.

More women could help avoid financial crashes because testosterone-fuelled male traders take too many risks, according to new research.

A study found a phenomenon known as the psychological momentum advantage made male judo fighters more likely to win – but not women.

This is a state of mind where individuals feel things are going unstoppable their way. It is caused, among other factors, by shifts in levels of the male sex hormone.

The economists say the finding may be relevant to The City – where nine in 10 workers are men.

Bringing more women into the financial industry could help prevent 'bubbles' that occur when investors put so much demand on a stock they drive the price beyond its actual worth.

The two most famous examples of the 20th century were the 'bubble' in American stocks in the 1920s just before the Great Depression driven by the invention of radios, cars and aeroplanes and the Dot-com 'bubble' of the late 1990s.



The City Picture: SWNS

This was also based on speculative activity surrounding the development of new technology, this time the Internet and e-commerce.

Dr Ze'ev Shtudiner, of Ariel University, Israel, said: "We can connect our findings to the effect of psychological momentum in financial markets of which 90 per cent are men."

"Such an effect may lead male traders, driven by an increase in testosterone due to a successful investment, to take exaggerated risks, which, in turn, create price 'bubbles'."

"By increasing the number of women in financial markets, it may be possible to stabilise these markets since women have less dramatic shifts in testosterone levels, which can make them less prone to the momentum effect."

"This argument is consistent with our results that momentum effects are generated only among men, since it is only among them that testosterone levels increase after success."

The study published in the *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* said psycho-

logical momentum significantly affects performance among men – but not among women. This may account for exaggerated risk-taking in financial and business endeavours among males.

Dr Danny Cohen-Zada, of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, said: "The purpose of our study was twofold: to estimate the causal effect of psychological momentum on performance in real tournament settings, and to examine whether there are any gender differences in the corresponding response."

In the study, the researchers analysed two different samples of men's and women's judo competitions from 2009 to 2013.

In the first, they looked at the bronze-medal fights of each tournament.

While competitors won the same number of bouts, some had won their most recent while others did not. The former category of performers had a potential momentum advantage. It turned out they were more likely to win the fight – if they were male.

Dr Alex Krumer, of University of St Gallen, Switzerland, said: "Our results showed, based on a cross section analysis of 106 men's and 111 women's fights from eight major annual judo events, having a psychological momentum advantage significantly increases the winning probability in men's contests but not in women's."

Based on the head-to-head history of the pairs from the first sample and analysing 225 men's and 231 women's fights, the researchers then obtained similar results by looking at how the performance of the same pair of judo experts was affected by varied momentum statuses in different tournaments.

As expected, these results also indicated the psychological momentum effect just exists among men.

According to Dr Krumer, as well as helping to avoid problems in the stock market by recruiting more women, the research could also boost business in other ways.

He said: "An increased frequency of positive feedback from managers after successful actions may turn into a positive psychological momentum and thus increase productivity."

"Similarly, managers should exert efforts to reduce the influence of unsuccessful actions of their workers to avoid productivity losses."

Dr Cohen-Zada believes additional research would be beneficial, focusing on the role of psychological effects on performance in male-dominated positions, including stockbrokers, as well as high-profile managers, politicians and military commanders.

Writing for you every week, London's most outspoken entrepreneur

## Charlie pipes up!



## Misconception could see country killing off the golden goose

PEOPLE need to wake up and stop assuming that being self-employed is a ruse to avoid paying tax, because it just isn't true.

The recession hit millions of people hard, and thousands were forced to go freelance, speeding up a process which was already well and truly in motion.

Freelancing and self-employment are things that, if the UK wants to take a place as an independent, forward-looking economy in the post-Brexit era, we must embrace.

The Treasury, however, seems to have cause for concern and in this week's Budget the Chancellor, Philip Hammond, could announce the plans to overhaul the self-employed tax system.

It seems that the Chancellor, like so many others, believes that there's a strong case to tackle the growing discrepancy between workers who pay tax using PAYE, the self-employed and those who run personal service companies.

According to the industry body IPSE, freelancers contributed a total of £119 billion to the economy last year, an increase of £10 billion from 2015. This translates to 42 per cent of the 4.8 million self-employed population, which is rapidly growing. The old ways are making way for the new, and just because things are changing doesn't mean people are on the fiddle.

It's not just the billions in tax paid by all these independent traders, but the knock-on effects their activity is having on the rest of the economy. From new houses, designer clothes and fuel, to sandwiches and coffee, freelancers are fuelling the 21st-century UK economy. But perhaps there does need to be some sort of reform. When it comes to classifying workers, the facts and figures need to be crystal clear.

In the Autumn Statement in November, the Chancellor suggested that some sort

of review was in the distance, perhaps referring to the Budget. He stressed that "technological progress is changing the way people live and the way they work; the tax system needs to keep pace". But the pace of the issue is currently outstripping the action being taken by government.

A couple of weeks ago we lost a case against a plumber who did work for us on a self-employed basis for six years. He took advantage of the benefits of that status, before deciding he wanted to have his cake and eat it, and sued us for employment rights as an employee.

The current law, according to the Court of Appeal, says that despite this plumber having been VAT-registered and paying low Corporation Tax (not higher PAYE), supplying his own materials, and claiming tax relief for employing his wife, an accountant and using his home as an office, he was, in fact, not self-employed.

It seems that we do need some real reform here, which is why I would, as well as whatever comes of the Chancellor's Budget speech, respectfully request a hearing from Matthew Taylor's review of employment practices, which he has been commissioned to carry out for the government.

This is very important. Honest businesses like mine are not ripping off HMRC, and if this misconception is allowed to continue we may end up killing the golden goose – which in this case is the very same bird that dragged the UK out of recession.

If the Treasury are going to change the way that the tax system works, they need to do so by keeping their promises and confirm that the taxation of different ways of working is representative of and fair to the individuals involved.

We need leadership and legislation from government, not vague suggestions that honest businesses might be up to no good.

Views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of this newspaper



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# Councils join forces in bid to beat health cuts

BY JACK DIXON  
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

TOWN-HALL bosses in Hammersmith and Fulham have joined forces with council leaders in Ealing in a double effort to defend local health services from cuts and closures.

The leaders of the two neighbouring local authorities spoke at a public meeting at Ealing Town Hall as part of a renewed push to protect the NHS.

In January, campaigners claimed to have uncovered details of huge cuts to health services.

They also fear the axe will fall on Charing Cross Hospital as health bosses seek to re-structure services in the face of growing budget pressures.

The Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, which runs the hospital along with several others in north west London, has denied any plans to reduce the number of NHS jobs and beds in the next financial year. It has also ruled out closing Charing Cross until at least 2021.

But council chiefs maintain that the NHS is "under attack".



Stephen Cowan

At the public meeting, Hammersmith and Fulham council leader Stephen Cowan said: "This is not about a clinical assessment of what is needed. This is about the slow undoing of our National Health Service."

Both Cllr Cowan and Ealing council leader Julian Bell have refused to support a controversial NHS plan that sets out proposals for managing health-care resources for the next five years. Campaigners fear it will pave the way for downgrading Charing Cross Hospital and axing Ealing Hospital's A&E unit.

The latest developments in the campaign come as demand for local services continues to rise.

Official figures revealed that during the second week of January more than 350 people waited for more than four hours in A&E at Charing Cross, with demand at the unit up by almost a third over the last two years.

Cllr Cowan said: "There is real reason for concern about the plan to downgrade A&E at Charing Cross."

"With demand soaring and the existing resources struggling to cope, it is both foolish and dangerous to remove vital capacity in the system."

Eve Turner, secretary of the Ealing Save Our NHS campaign, said: "It is beyond belief that even as they are sending people home early from overcrowded hospitals, the local health bosses are still defending their plans to cut hundreds of beds along with more than 7,750 NHS staff and reduce A&E capacity by 64,000."

Imperial has repeatedly denied that Charing Cross will be downgraded to 'local hospital' status over the next five years.

It has also ruled out any cuts to staff numbers or hospital beds in the next 12 months.

A spokesman said: "The trust has no plans to reduce jobs or beds in the next financial year."

"Any proposed changes to services arising from this process will be subject to extensive engagement with staff, patients and stakeholders in advance of any formal proposal or decision."



Mumford & Sons

## Chart-toppers headline charity show

**CHART-TOPPING** popstars Mumford & Sons headlined a one-off charity fundraiser in Shepherd's Bush as part of a drive to combat food waste and help the hungry.

The band, famous for hit songs *Little Lion Man* and *Lover of the Light*, topped a star-studded bill during the special gig at St Stephen's Church last week.

Proceeds from the show will go to the Felix Project, which collects leftover food from supermarkets and delivers it free of charge to charities across London.

Its mission is to support organisations who care for the poorest and most vulnerable in society by topping up their food supplies.

Soul singer Michael Kiwanuka, folk songwriter Lucy Rose and indie bands Daughter, Bear's Den and Fat White Family were among the other artists performing at the church on Friday.

Mumford & Sons have strong ties to the local area after emerging as part of the West London folk scene in the late 2000s.

The band went on to huge commercial success and headlined Glastonbury Festival in 2013.

But they closed last week's event with a stripped-back acoustic set.

Ben Lovett, a multi-instrumentalist in the

band, said: "We are really happy to have been asked to perform at St Stephen's Church in support of the Felix Project."

"The premise of the Felix Project is one we stand by, not just in its redistribution of resource to those in need, but also in its effort to salvage some of the mindless wastage we create on a daily basis."


The Felix Project was set up in London last year, supplying fresh food free of charge to a wide range of different charities across the capital.

Many of the organisations it partners with work with people who have very poor diets, including homeless people, women living in refuges and people with complex mental-health problems.

But the charities often have limited food budgets and cannot always provide meals for everyone they support.

The Felix Project has stepped in to plug the gap by collecting surplus food from shops and wholesalers and delivering it straight to the door.

The charity's Sophie Napper said: "All the money raised from the event will help the Felix Project continue to tackle food waste and food poverty, and expand into new areas of London."



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## Magistrates' court closure 'could lead to rise in collapsed cases'

LEGAL cases may collapse when key witnesses fail to turn up to give evidence following the closure of Hammersmith Magistrates' Court, according to a senior councillor.

The deputy leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, Michael Cartwright, warned that a rise in the number of 'no shows' could block the path to justice for victims of crime.

Justice ministers confirmed last month that Hammersmith Magistrates' Court would be closed as part of efforts to streamline the legal system.

Adult cases that would previously have been heard in Hammersmith will now take place in Westminster, Hendon and the City of London, while youth cases will be moved to Highbury Corner.

Cllr Cartwright, a former magistrate, said the extra journey time would discourage witnesses from coming to court to give evidence.

He said: "There is evidence from other areas where courts have been closed of an increase in cases collapsing because witnesses find it difficult to travel to the court where the case is listed."



Cllr Michael Cartwright

The Law Society president Robert Bourns described the decision as "ill-considered" – and Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter branded the move a "land grab" by the Ministry of Justice.

Critics have pointed to the particular impact of the closure on victims of domestic abuse, who are often already put off by the prospect of giving evidence in court.

Sally Jackson, from the Standing Together Against Domestic Violence charity, said: "Moving the court elsewhere will add complications to those going through the daunting experience of giving evidence, but we are determined to work with our partners to minimise

the disruption and ensure we don't lose the expertise of the specialist court."

Plans to axe the court – along with several others across the country – were unveiled last year ahead of a public consultation.

The proposals were approved last month despite a high-profile campaign led by law associations and local councils.

Ministers believe other courts will be able to absorb the extra workload and have set out plans for more legal proceedings to be carried out using technology, without the need for some participants to attend in person.

In the consultation document, MoJ delivery director Chris Jennings said: "The proposed relocation of the work and hearings from these courts has been carefully considered, along with the potential impact on court users, judiciary and staff."

"The closures are proposed on the basis that the services provided ... can be delivered at other sites, which in turn will improve wider utilisation and the efficiency of the estate in London."



# Deputy mayor's 'No' to arming all city's police

BY GEOFF BAKER  
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

CITY Hall's police boss has warned cops prepared to carry guns that she will not back moves for a fully armed Met.

Although 57 per cent of Met officers who responded to a Police Federation survey said they would be prepared to carry a gun "if the commissioner and the Home Secretary made a decision that all MPS officers should routinely carry a firearm whilst on duty", the deputy mayor for policing and crime, Sophie Linden, says City Hall will not allow it.

Some 43 per cent of police surveyed said there "should be more specialist firearms officers in the Metropolitan Police Service but not all officers should be routinely armed" – and Ms Linden is siding with them.

She said: "London's police officers have made clear their support for our proud policing tradition where the majority of our officers are unarmed."

"It does remain necessary to have a few highly specialised armed units, in line with the changing threat level, but we would not support any plan to routinely arm London's police officers."

The Met's Police Federation survey revealed that an overwhelming 75 per cent feel

that "all Metropolitan Police officers should be issued with Taser whilst on duty".

But Ms Linden responded: "Taser should only be issued to fully trained officers and its use must be accountable to the community. How widely this tactic is used is kept under review."

Last year the Met revealed that it needed an extra 600 armed cops on the street. The force is currently training hundreds of extra officers to bring the Met up to full gun strength.

The chairman of the Met's federation, Ken Marsh, is seeking talks with City Hall about arming the police.

He said: "We often hear people talk about what police officers want and we can now say with some certainty that our members feel that more Met Police officers should be carrying a Taser on London streets. We can also say that we know their views on the prospect of being armed."

"When police officers carry a Taser or gun, there is a huge responsibility – not to mention cost and specific training and welfare packages for officers concerned – so we need to start to have discussions about what our members are asking for with the new commissioner and the mayor of London."

# Theatre's ban on in-show snacks

WHO'S afraid of a packet of crisps? West End theatre bosses who have issued a "stop eating" ban on audiences for a new production.

Theatre fans planning to attend the latest run of *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?* at the Harold Pinter Theatre have been told to cut out the snacks.

But theatre-goers are welcoming the ban and are calling on managers to extend it to drinking too.

The Edward Albee play stars Imelda Staunton and Conleth Hill, and recently opened for previews.

In an email to ticket bookers seen by *The Stage* newspaper, the Ambassador Theatre Group – which operates the Harold Pinter – said no food would be allowed to be eaten during the show.

The email stated: "Out of consideration for the actors and for fellow audience members, we ask that no food be consumed during the performance."

The email said that food purchased at bars in the theatre may be eaten before the show, or during one of its two breaks. Drinks will be allowed into the auditorium in plastic cups.

A spokesman for the producers, Sonia Friedman Productions, told *The Stage* that the decision had been taken due to sections of the show being "extremely intense and quiet".

During a recent interview, Ms Staunton said she would approve outlawing food in theatres, suggesting it distracts from the live performance.

"I don't know why people can't engage in just one thing. I don't understand this obsession with having to eat or drink something at every moment of the day," she said.

Regular theatre-goers say they could not agree more and in posts on *The Stage* website they have called for more restrictions.

"I would ban ice in drinks and plastic water bottles, both are a source of irritating noises," wrote one. Another added: "This needs to become the rule throughout The West End. I don't understand the need to munch and crunch your way through a performance. The theatre is an event that's special, it's intimate, it's a meeting between audience and performers that is unique each evening. It's not a football match."

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# Points of view

Have  
your say

Email Jack Dixon  
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## OPINION

**S**INCE October, the *London Weekly News* and its sister title the *South London Press* has been campaigning to raise awareness of mental health problems and the all too frequent failings in the support system that block people's path to help.

And we make no apologies for highlighting this issue once again on the front pages of our Hammersmith, Fulham and Shepherd's Bush editions this week.

Suicide is a challenging subject that many of us would rather not confront. But, as the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics show, it is a topic we can no longer afford to ignore.

According to the London Assembly, Hammersmith and Fulham, along with inner London boroughs Camden, Southwark and Islington, now have suicide rates 25 per cent above the London average.

This shocking statistic equates to more than 10 suicide deaths for every 100,000 members of the population in these boroughs.

It is more important than ever that people in such a desperate state are provided with the opportunity to access the appropriate support they urgently need to overcome their mental health problems.

This newspaper supports the London Assembly health committee's call for London Mayor Sadiq Khan to work towards a "zero suicide city", where everyone, regardless of circumstances, feels comfortable to seek support for their difficulties.

It should be the marker of an open and caring society that it provides a safety net for the most vulnerable. It is absolutely a matter of life and death.

■ *If you would like to support our Change Is Possible mental health campaign you can donate at [www.givey.com/changeispossible](http://www.givey.com/changeispossible) or contact London Weekly News reporter Jack Dixon on 07973565078 or by email at [jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk)*

## Housing

SOME excellent news. The Labour council's unwanted proposal to abolish council housing in [Hammersmith and Fulham] has been abandoned.

Vast sums were spent trying to persuade council tenants and council leaseholders to back the transfer of their homes to an unaccountable community gateway housing association. But the opposition was overwhelming.

Although they would have denied leaseholders a vote, they faced a legal requirement to win support from tenants which they had no hope of gaining.

The Conservative government has also refused to write off the debt that would have been required.

An appalling proposal that left many of Labour's traditional supporters feeling betrayed. Also a scandal that £1 million was wasted on it.

The Conservatives repeatedly called for the scheme to be abandoned – but Labour keep on pouring public money into the doomed project.

While lawyers, consultants and PR men were paid huge fees, the council claimed to have no money for a growing backlog of repairs. The council pressed on against the wishes of residents. They prevented proper scrutiny and transparency. What a disgrace. Yet they have not even had the grace to apologise.

**Councillor Harry Phibbs  
Conservative,  
Ravenscourt Park**



Despite all the work to prevent homelessness, unless we see a step-change in how we tackle these issues, local authorities and Londoners will continue to feel the strain, writes Edward Lord OBE

## Homelessness

FAMILY homelessness in London is rising at a faster rate than across England, with councils struggling to provide temporary accommodation.

The demand on temporary accommodation is particularly severe in London where the increase in the number of families accepted as homeless has increased by 51 per cent compared with the national equivalent of 15 per cent since 2011.

Data available from 20 of London's 33 local authorities showed that the gross cost of temporary accommodation reached £663 million in 2014/15 and the level of spend met by London boroughs from their own general funds can be estimated at just over one quarter of that cost, or £170 million.

This week Ernst & Young and London Councils teamed up to launch London Ventures, an innovation programme, which will focus on how the public, private and third sectors can work together to support some of London's biggest local public services challenges including combatting homelessness.

People become and stay homeless for a whole range of complex and overlapping reasons and solving homelessness is about much more than putting a roof over people's heads.

Councils are facing unprecedented challenges in the coming years and we know from experience that collaborative and co-operative working with other sectors can provide innovative solutions to these challenges.

Research found that there are high length of stays in temporary accommodation in London especially for private sector stays. 29 per cent of families in temporary accommodation had spent

less than six months in temporary accommodation, 61 per cent had spent less than two years and 21 per cent had spent five or more years there.

The London Ventures programme is seeking to reduce the cost for temporary accommodation by preventing statutory homelessness and by managing the use of more expensive forms of accommodation.

Temporary accommodation should never be a long-term solution for councils but we're now seeing an unsustainable amount being spent, especially on private sector housing stock.

Despite all the great work currently underway to prevent homelessness in the first place, unless we see a step-change in how we tackle these issues, local authorities and Londoners will continue to feel the strain.

**Edward Lord OBE  
Chairman, London  
Ventures**

## Devolution

A PROGRAMME which will drive forward the devolution agenda in London has taken another step forward as the search begins for providers to deliver the Work and Health programme.

Over 100 providers gathered at the Drum in Wembley on Thursday (February 23) to hear more about the scheme, which will help disabled people and the long-term unemployed into work. This follows another market engagement event at City Hall last week which also attracted over 100 organisations.

Whitehall officially passed the budget for the programme to four sub-regions in London, as well as the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, at the end of January.

The funding – which amounts to just over £70 million over five years – will be used by councils to help the long-term unemployed and those with health conditions or disabilities enter the world of work in the capital.

Additional funding of around £65 million will also be available through the European Social Fund, taking the total to £135 million.

London Councils, along with the Mayor of London, has long been calling for greater borough involvement in designing future work programmes for local communities. It provides the opportunity to align employment services with other locally run services such as housing, health, debt advice and childcare in order to reduce an individual's barriers to work.

The agreement between the Department for Work and Pensions and the London boroughs now paves the way for the boroughs to work together in four sub-regions to create initiatives tailored to communities' needs. Londoners can expect the new programmes to begin from spring 2018.

Potential providers will submit proposals in March this year and London boroughs will announce successful contractors towards the end of 2017.

This is a significant moment in London's call for further devolution and we are pleased to be finally getting the wheels in motion.

I'm delighted that so many providers attended these events and that there's a real interest in working in new and different ways with boroughs on helping residents with complex needs back into the workplace.

**Councillor Claire Kober  
OBE, Chair, London  
Councils**

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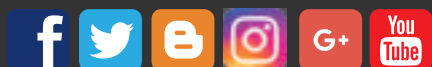
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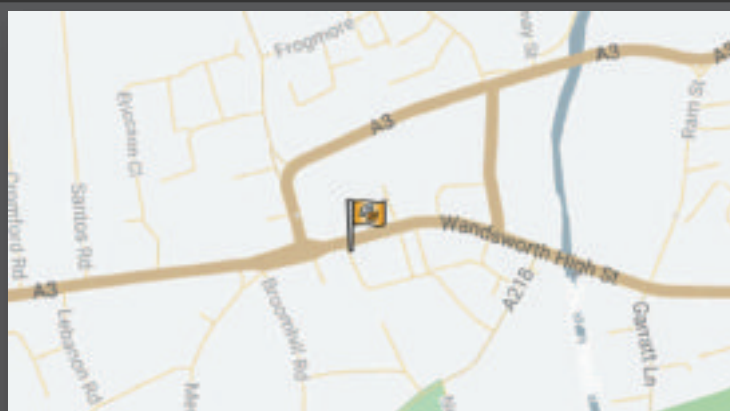
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# Cabinet agrees first rise in council tax for eight years

THE first increase in council tax for eight years has been agreed by the cabinet of Kensington and Chelsea council.

The 1.9 per cent increase will – if the budget is approved by the full council tomorrow – contribute some £1.5 million to the authority in 2017-18, money that would otherwise have to be found from reductions in services.

“Overall, the council must

find some £8 million of efficiencies or extra income in 2017-18 in order to compensate for reductions in government grants,” said a spokesman for the borough.

“And 2017-18 will be the seventh consecutive year in which such grants have fallen. In fact, by 2017-18 the council’s budget will have shrunk in real terms by about 22 per cent since 2010-11.

“Fortunately, the cabinet’s strategy for coping with austerity has so far proven highly effective. Thanks to sharing services with neighbouring boroughs, traditional savings and efficiencies and more dynamic stewardship of its property portfolio, just five per cent of the savings required from the Council since 2010-11 have had to come by way of service reductions.

“Sharing the management of services with neighbouring boroughs, for example, is now saving the council around £13 million a year, while annual income from property is expected to rise to £13.8 million in 2017-18, up from just £3.8 million in 2010-11.”

However, the cabinet agreed that the strategy’s potential for yielding further income and savings is now shrinking, hence the proposal for an increase in council tax.

“Even with a 1.9 per cent increase, the royal borough’s tax will still be the fifth-lowest in the country. The council will remain one of the small minority in London still paying council-tax benefit that covers 100 per cent of council-tax bills for those dependent on benefit. And it will also remain just about the only council in the country still meeting the moderate care needs of vulnerable adults,” said the spokesman.

“In addition, the cabinet agreed to protect the voluntary-sector budget from spending pressures; 2017-18 will, therefore, be the fourth consecutive year that the voluntary sector has been spared cuts.

“In setting the budget, the cabinet looked carefully at the national crisis in adult social care and its impact on Kensington and Chelsea.

“It recognised that al-

though the local care system is facing similar sorts of pressures to those reported around the country, it was not yet itself in crisis.

“This is due to a number of factors: the council’s austerity-survival strategy; its policy of continuing to meet the moderate care needs of vulnerable residents which enables residents to stay independent longer and, of course, the fact that some royal borough residents are able to fund their own care.

“For 2017-18, therefore, the cabinet agreed not to take advantage of the social care precept which can now be added to council bills to help meet care costs, but to keep the option under review for 2018-19.”

The leader of the authority, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, said: “I am very proud of the way we have maintained good-quality services for our residents.

“But after seven years of austerity, we are now facing stark choices.

“If we are to continue delivering good services we must find some additional money.

“After an eight-year freeze, a modest increase in council tax seems a sensible way to start.”

As well as setting a budget, the cabinet also approved a £397 million capital programme of housebuilding, school improvements and other regeneration schemes.



**Anne O'Hara, from the council's Waste Action team, handing over the cheque to Hervé Nourisson, secretary of the Warwick Road Estate Leaseholders Association**

## Recycler's £2.5k boost to leaseholders' association

THE Warwick Road Leaseholders' Association is richer by £2,500 thanks to the generosity of a Kensington resident who won a cash prize for recycling his rubbish the right way.

The resident, known only as Mr Helman, won the first round of Kensington and Chelsea council's Golden Ticket recycling prize draw.

He scooped £500 in the draw which rewards residents for recycling the correct way – and, as the Golden Ticket winner can also nominate a local charity or community group to win £2,500 community prize money, he chose the leaseholders' association.

The council's cabinet member for environment, Cllr Timothy Ahern, said: “I'm pleased that Kensington and Chelsea residents are entering the Golden Ticket recycling prize draw and that local community groups are also benefiting.

“The council supports this scheme because it encourages people to recycle – and recycle the right way. It is also a great way to help community groups that have made a commitment to recycling. Not only is recycling good for the environment but it saves the council money, so we can put it where it's needed the most.”

There will be one further draw this year, on Friday March 24. To be in with a chance of winning, put your details on a ticket and pop it in your clear recycling bag or mixed recycling bank.

Tickets are available at the council's Customer Service Centre and all of the borough's libraries. Tickets can also be downloaded and printed at [www.gov.uk/goldenticket](http://www.gov.uk/goldenticket).

## Child poverty

HAMMERSMITH and Fulham council has unveiled new plans to tackle child poverty in the borough.

A new strategy will focus on improving children's services and schools while addressing employment problems, housing and health issues.

The council says it wants to help people manage their budgets and live healthier lives.

A spokesman said: “Working with the NHS, schools and charities we are determined to make a real difference to the lives of children in poverty.”

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## Grants for volunteers

TWENTY-EIGHT voluntary organisations in Kensington and Chelsea are to receive grants totalling £2.36 million a year for the next two years to deliver a range of services to residents after the royal borough's cabinet approved the Corporate Services Grants Programme for 2017-18 and provisionally for 2018-19.

“A total of 32 organisations applied for funding. Of these, 26 were funded by the scheme in 2015-2017 and despite the continued pressure on the council's own finances none of these organisations had their grant cut,” said a council spokesman.

“In fact, all that were funded in the previous year had their grants renewed and increased by two per cent, in line with inflation.

“New grants were approved for two organisations, Open Age and K&C Forum for Older Residents, which will receive £10,000 and £14,000 respectively.”

Organisations benefiting from grants include: Cruise Bereavement Care, which provides bereavement support services in the

borough; Westway CT, which provides community transport; and Citizens Advice.

The scheme, which has been running for more than a decade, provides funding for core and project costs – without which many small and medium-sized organisations would struggle to cover their core costs and keep going.

Cllr Gerard Hargreaves, the cabinet member for civil society, said: “The voluntary sector has been providing valuable services to residents for many years and I am very pleased that the council has been able to maintain its level of funding and even approve two new grant applications.

“The services provided by voluntary organisations complement services delivered by the council. In addition, they provide valuable advice and support to residents who would not be eligible for statutory services.”

To read the cabinet report *Allocation of voluntary services grants from Corporate Services 2017-19*, visit [rbkc.gov.uk/voluntary](http://rbkc.gov.uk/voluntary) sectorgrants.



# 'Night creeper' burglar jailed for raid at Cowell's £35m mansion

MUSIC mogul Simon Cowell admitted he is living in "constant fear" after a convicted killer broke into his mansion and stole £1 million of jewellery in a "night creeper" burglary.

Darren February, 33, ransacked the *X Factor* judge's four-storey Holland Park home in December 2015 and stole passports and luxury items.

February climbed a wall at the back of the property to get into the garden and tried various doors and windows before forcing open a patio door to get inside.

Mr Cowell said at the time that he thought the burglary had been an "inside job".

In an impact statement, he said he was "scared" about what could have happened if the burglar had gone into the room of his three-year-old son Eric – and feared he could be targeted again.

Only 10 days after the burglary, February stole his ex-girlfriend's car and crashed head-on into motorcyclist Kenneth Baldwin.

The 52-year-old was killed in the collision as February fled the scene.

Father-of-two February was jailed for eight-and-a-half years for causing Mr Baldwin's death by dangerous driving, not far from Mr Cowell's home.

He was convicted of the burglary on Monday and was jailed yesterday for eight years, which will run consecutively with his current sentence.

In a victim impact statement,



Simon Cowell  
Picture: SWNS

Mr Cowell said: "This incident has caused me great concerns about the security of my family."

"On reflection I am very scared of what could have happened to my son if the burglar had gone into his room."

"I could not bear to think of the consequences and a lot would have happened if the burglar had come into our room."

"The whole incident has been very traumatic and there is a constant fear that it may be repeated and that it may be worse next time."

"Post the burglary there is no doubt that myself and Ms Silverman (Mr Cowell's partner Lauren Silverman) and my son's nannies have become much more anxious over safety issues relating to my

son's care and wellbeing. My son was in the house that night and I am naturally very concerned over what could have happened if the burglar had entered my son's room, as any parent in the same situation would be."

Mr Cowell initially thought the stolen goods were worth about £2 million but later estimated it to be about £950,000.

This included watches worth around £200,000 and a diamond ring worth £500,000.

There were also diamond earrings worth £220,000 and a diamond bracelet valued at £50,000.

The bulk of the haul – worth up to £830,000 – has not been recovered.

Both Mr Cowell and Ms Silver-

man's passports were stolen from the five-bed family home during the raid.

Sentencing February, Judge Martin Edmunds QC said: "This was a night creeper burglary of a house where the occupants lay sleeping."

"However much you wished to avoid detection, the very act of entering a person's home at night creates the risk of confrontation and violence."

"Whenever a burglar targets jewellery, however wealthy the owners may be, those items are very likely to have significant sentimental value as well."

"It is all too clear that you targeted wealthy homes in hope of substantial gain."

"This burglary was clearly the subject of planning. That plan was the deliberate targeting of the home of a person you expected to have valuable things to steal."

"This offence and your previous record demonstrates that when you are at liberty to do so, you offend in cruel and damaging ways."

February, who appeared at Isleworth Crown Court via video link from HMP Wormwood Scrubs, sat slumped in a chair and made no reaction.

He has a series of previous convictions, including 37 for burglary dating back to 1996 when he was just 12 years old, as well as convictions for assault and driving offences.

## Punk heroes Cooper Clarke and Matlock at Portobello arts fest

FOR the third year running, Portobello Live! is returning with its festival of music, cabaret, spoken word, performance and art, with former punk stars John Cooper Clarke, pictured, and Sex Pistol Glen Matlock.



Held over the May Day bank holiday in association with dance label Wall Of Sound and Rough Trade records, this year's festival also takes a retrospective look at Rock Against Racism, a movement which sprang into life 40 years ago.

An impressive line-up of new bands and performers, rock royalty and special guests will play out across the stages of Portobello's iconic pubs, clubs and venues.

This year, Portobello Live! will feature punk performance poet John Cooper Clarke as one of the headline artists, along with Pete Wylie (The Mighty Wah!), Bandante (The Bad Seeds), Glen Matlock (The Sex Pistols), The Egg, Youth, Salad Undressed, Ben Volpeliere-Pierrot (Curiosity Killed The Cat), Don Letts, Rusty Egan and Noel Watson, with more to be announced.

"Music, film, poetry and art lovers will join with music industry and media professionals to enjoy the best of the West in a diverse programme of delight," said a spokesman for the event.

Portobello Live! also represents the local community.

The *It's Behind You* exhibition looks back over 25 years of the iconic Portobello Panto, neighbourhood music academy The Rhythm Studio will hold drumming sessions and harmonies from the Portobello Live! Choir will open the festival.

"In addition, Rock Against Racism photographer Syd Shelton will reflect on the movement which, 40 years ago, came to public attention through music and marches, or 'carnivals', inspired by Notting Hill's annual event where many RAR artists had their musical and street-fighting apprenticeships," said the spokesman.

"And to highlight current social affairs, the Oasis World Choir, composed of refugees from Sudan, Syria and Afghanistan, will sing at the festival."

Aimed at preserving Notting Hill's rich and diverse artistic heritage, the festival provides a deserved platform for the area's past and present music and cultural history. Venues are all within walking distance and include Acklam Village, the Cow, Mau Mau, Rough Trade, Westbank, Rum Kitchen, Maxilla Social Club and Book & Kitchen.

Support for this year's festival is being provided by established sponsors and local patrons including Mick Jones, formerly of The Clash, actress Anna Chancellor (*Four Weddings And A Funeral*), film director Kevin Allen (*Twin Town, Under Milk Wood*), filmmaker and author Don Letts and artist Mark Wigan.

"Not only is it great to be working alongside some of the amazing people and organisations who consider West London home, these important collaborations have presented Portobello Live! with the opportunity to expand and develop, as well as giving it greater visibility in the community," said Portobello Live! promoter Micky P.

## Fireworks Prom back with a bang

FOLLOWING the success of last year's inaugural Chelsea Fireworks Prom, the spectacular event will be returning in 2017 for a special celebration to kick off the summer with style at the Royal Hospital Chelsea on the June 16.

The event will feature the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, as part of the Live At Chelsea Concert Series which donates a portion of ticket sales each year to the maintenance of the hospital.

"The Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra is celebrating 30 years since its formation in 1987, and the performance against the backdrop of the stunning Royal Hospital Chelsea will thrill the summer evening audience," said a spokesman.

"Accompanied by a breathtaking firework display, the orchestra will perform pieces fitting to the grandeur and iconic place in British history that the Royal Hospital Chelsea has held since it was founded as a military hospital in 1682 by King Charles II."

The programme for the quintessentially British summer concert will include some of the most iconic pieces of music in history, such as *Jerusalem* by Parry, *Spitfire Prelude* by Walton and *Rule, Britannia!* by Arne with a canon and firework finale.

The programme will also include pieces by composers such as Mozart, Elgar and Tchaikovsky.

As well as the Chelsea Fireworks Prom, the popular indie-pop band Belle & Sebastian will be performing on June 15, and the genre-defying pianist and composer Ludovico Einaudi has been announced for June 17 and 18. Tickets for these shows are on sale now. Standard tickets for Ludovico Einaudi have already sold out.

There are also dining and barbecue pack-

Last year's event at Royal Hospital Chelsea



ages available for all nights of the Live At Chelsea Concert Series.

The Quartermaster's BBQ is a casual dining experience complete with cocktails set on the south terrace of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

The State Apartments package offers an "unparalleled concert dining experience", taking place in the Royal Hospital Chelsea's majestic state apartments designed by Sir Christopher Wren, and including champagne and canapes, and a three-course dinner.

## MP: 50% drop in dole claimers



CHELSEA and Fulham MP Greg Hands, pictured, says the number of people claiming unemployment benefit in his constituency has fallen by 50 per cent since 2010.

The minister said 1,041 fewer people are now claim-

ing the out-of-work benefit compared to in the period immediately before the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats formed the coalition government.

Mr Hands said wages are "growing strongly" while the

number of women in employment is at a "record high".

He said: "It shows that our ongoing welfare reforms are working, continuing to incentivise work and making sure that the system is fair."



# Help our D-Day heroes pay respects to fallen comrades

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

DO you know a D-Day hero? The Royal British Legion has launched a Londonwide appeal to find every surviving veteran of D-Day, to salute the brave with an offer to take them back free to the beaches of Normandy.

The Legion wants to track down men like Londoner Ken Hay, who fought on the beaches when he was just 18 years old.

The Treasury is enabling a series of free-of-charge tours for D-Day veterans to return to Normandy and pay their respects to their fallen comrades.

The tours are being funded by the Treasury from fines on banks involved in the LIBOR scandal, and will enable a D-Day veteran to return with a family member and carer on a six-night tour.

The 2017 tours will take place in March, April, May and September and will give Normandy veterans – now mostly in their 90s – the chance to revisit the Normandy beaches, cemeteries and memorials.

The tours will be accompanied by a medic and a guide from the Royal British Legion and will depart from London and will include Eurotunnel from Dover to Calais, accommodation, visits to Pegasus Bridge, Juno, Sword and Gold beaches, Arromanches, and war memorials, plus visits to personally specified cemeteries.

“Sadly, there is no database of D-Day veterans so we’re calling on the goodwill of the media and general public to spread the word. If you do know a D-Day veteran, please do let them know about our free tours,” said a spokesman for the Legion’s travel arm, Remembrance Travel.

Mr Hay, now 90, took advantage of the free travel deal in 2015, when he returned to the beach at Arromanches and Pegasus Bridge, and he was warmed by the welcome the veterans traditionally receive.

“I was sitting outside in the sunshine wearing my blazer and medals and was approached by well over a dozen people who wanted their photograph taken with me – Americans, French,



Spanish and Dutch people. I even got approached in Arromanches by five people from Paraguay,” he recalled.

“But I was disappointed not to encounter any Gendarmierie on the tour – I was awarded the National Order of the Legion of Honour (the Ordre national de La Legion d’honneur) last year and the Gendarmierie have to salute if they see you wearing the medal.

“It is the French equivalent of a knighthood, so technically in France I’m a Sir!”

Recalling his experiences during the war, Ken tells how, having joined up in 1943 at the age of 17, he joined the Army as an infantryman in the Essex Regiment before being transferred to the Dorset Regiment for the Normandy landings.

In June 1944, Ken travelled to France with his brother, who was a corporal in the same regiment, and the two fought alongside each other.

“There were essentially two prayers – ‘Keep me safe’ and ‘If my number is on the bullet, let it be quick,’” said Ken.

“When you were out on the field there were tracer bullets zinging over your head and they seemed to move in slow motion.

“It dawned on me on many occasions, lying out in a field with my brother, that we were a long way from home; a long way from our mother who was asleep in bed and our father who was out working. They had no idea we were both under fire in battle.”

In July 1944, Ken was captured by the Germans.

He and 29 others had embarked on a night patrol to blow up a self-propelled gun in what was supposed to be an observation post in no man’s land.

Unfortunately the intelligence they had received was wrong and the gun was behind enemy lines and manned. That was when the firing started.

As well as gunfire, the patrol was bombarded with grenades as the men made their retreat. Five were ultimately captured – Ken was among them.



Following capture, he was taken to Poland to work in a coal mine where he remained until the Russian advance in 1945, when he and his fellow prisoners of war started what has become known as the Long March to Freedom from January 23 to April 20 1945.

Having been repatriated, Ken learned that of the 30 who had undertaken the mission on the night of his capture, 16 returned, five were taken prisoner and nine were killed. Mercifully, his brother made it back uninjured.

The opportunity for veter-

ans to return free to Normandy is too good to miss, said Ken.

He added: “Both the Royal British Legion and the staff at Arena Travel are excellent; they have patience and are very helpful.

“We were accompanied by a tour guide who was an ex-Army officer. He was marvellous, very knowledgeable. Our driver was also superb – not only was he a skilled driver, he helped us to disembark from the coach wherever we travelled, as many of us have mobility issues.”

“It is always lovely to return to France and I return on a regular basis.

“It’s quite amazing really – whenever I am there the French still say thank you for their liberation.”

● **DO you know a D-Day veteran who would like to return to Normandy?**

Call Arena Travel on 01473 660800 – and email us at [jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk) because we would like to feature their story in salute to the heroes of D-Day.

## Capital facing builder crisis, warns mayor

LONDON is facing a Brexit builder crisis after new figures from City Hall show that almost 100,000 of the capital’s construction workforce are from the European Union.

Sadiq Khan is warning that a loss of skilled EU workers could have a seriously detrimental effect on homebuilding and other construction projects in London.

New figures in a report released by mayor of London Mr Khan have laid bare the crippling effect that Brexit could have on homebuilding in the capital.

The report reveals that more than a quarter of London’s construction workforce is from the European Union – and their future in the UK will be uncertain if the government goes ahead with so-called Hard Brexit.

The report sets out that of those working in London’s construction sector – the workforce behind building much-needed new infrastructure, affordable homes and office space in the capital – 95,000 are from the EU.

“The mayor has set out why he believes these figures underline the enormous contribution that Europeans make to London. He has been clear that retaining and having access to a highly skilled workforce is absolutely essential to protecting jobs,

growth and tax revenues across Britain over the decades ahead,” said the mayor’s spokesman.

“The mayor is also hugely concerned about the impact Brexit could have on the housing industry, with the government refusing to guarantee the status of EU workers currently living in the UK.

“His *Housing in London* report shows there are 350,000 people who work in London’s construction sector, of whom just over half are from the UK, while 27 per cent are from the EU. The remaining part of the workforce is from other European countries (three per cent), while 14 per cent is from the rest of the world.

“Industry experts also suggest that London needs up to an extra 13,000 new workers each year until 2021 in order to plug the skills gap and meet the additional demands on the construction industry, highlighting just how important it is for London to be able to continue to attract the talent it needs post-Brexit.”

Mr Khan said: “When I speak to businesses – both large and small – one of the biggest issues they raise with me is the skills gap. They tell me that maintaining a skilled workforce is absolutely crucial to their future and the future of the whole economy.

“London is in the grip of a serious housing crisis – and fixing it is going to be a marathon, not a sprint. While we are working to train up more Londoners to have the skills to work in construction, you can’t escape the fact that Hard Brexit could leave a quarter of the skilled construction workforce in the capital high and dry which would have a crippling effect on our plans to build the homes Londoners so desperately need.”

Mark Farmer, chief executive of Cast Real Estate & Construction Consultancy, said: “It’s very clear that the construction industry is far more reliant on migrant labour than anywhere else in the UK. To safeguard against this, London will require at least short- to medium-term continued access to EU migrant labour and early protections given to its existing migrant workforce.

“As part of a longer-term plan, the construction sector, in partnership with developers and supported by the GLA, needs to come up with a clear strategy for attracting and training more homegrown talent and developing more modern, higher-productivity construction techniques which are less labour intensive, helping to future proof the industry.”







# Royals ready to help American President get out his niblick

**Geoff Baker**  
on how the Queen looks set to fix up a foursome for Donald Trump

**P**ITY Her Majesty. As if the Queen hasn't got enough to do with overseeing arrangements for President Trump coming to stay, now it seems that she may have to fix it for him to have a foursome.

Stop snickering at the back there. We are of course talking about helping Mr Trump to get out his niblick (\*).

*I said stop it.*

To put it another way, on top of checking every other detail for the state visit, now Her Majesty is set to delegate three members of her family to help the President shoot an albatross (\*\*) and avoid an angel-raper (\*\*\*).

Still confused? That's the problem with golf, the terminology is often baffling.

As plans and proposals for the President's visit go to and fro between Buckingham Palace and Washington, one option which has arisen is whether he will want to get a round in.

President Trump is renowned as a keen golfer and it has been suggested that he may like a game during his stay, as it is likely that he would far more enjoy addressing the ball than addressing both Houses of Parliament.

Although many excellent courses



**Prince Andrew and US President Donald Trump are skilled golfers. President Trump could relish a round at the Queen's course at Balmoral Castle when he visits Britain this year**



are available, one thought is that, as we are plainly going to be rolling out every last bit of red carpet to make our key trading partner feel welcome, if not hopefully generous with business deals, he might relish playing on Her Majesty's own course at Balmoral.

As many golfers know, much

business is often done between holes and a relaxing game on the exclusive and stunning course at Balmoral Castle may be just the trick for persuading President Trump to sign some new trade deal. Especially if he wins the game.

But who among the Royal Family could help him do that? Step forward Prince Andrew. Although the Duke of York is not always celebrated as the most over-worked of the royals, he could be key on this important occasion, especially if he partnered the President.

Prince Andrew is not only the Royal Family's most avid golfer, he is very good at his game – having

got down to a handicap of four in recent years, an accomplishment that would technically entitle him to turn pro, and was captain of St Andrews in 2003.

So a pairing of Prince Andrew with President Trump – who reportedly plays off three – could be the dream team, especially if they came up against Prince Charles and Prince William, both of whom have played golf a bit but who are thought to be high-handicap players, playing off around 24.

There is one slight problem to this.

Technically for a foursome, the two lowest-handicap players should play against each other. Therefore it would be Andy and, for instance, Charles, versus Donald and William.

But would it be worth the risk of possibly losing a much-needed trade deal if Andy and his brother thrashed Donald and William 5 and 4 (five holes up with four to play) on Her Majesty's nine-hole course?

However, what's the harm in a little rule-bending if billions in trade is at stake? Besides, it could be somewhat tenuously argued, as the higher-handicap team (Charles and William) would get many free strokes (you're snickering again), it would be an entirely fair match. Technically.

(\*) Niblick – the old name for an iron with a heavy, lofted head, such as a nine-iron, used especially for playing out of bunkers.

(\*\*) Shooting an albatross – the very rare score of finishing a hole three under par, eg scoring two on a par-five hole.

(\*\*\*) Angel-raper – golfing term for a tee shot mishit so high that it could imperil an angel.

## William in running to be LGBT chum of year



**PIONEERING** Prince William is in the running for a prestigious award as LGBT chum of the year after his important anti-bullying call in defence of the community.

The Duke of Cambridge, who appeared on the cover of *Attitude* magazine in July, has been added to the shortlist of nominees for the Straight Ally award by the British LGBT Awards.

He is up against James Corden, Ariana Grande, Anne Hathaway, Thierry Henry, Annie Lennox, Macklemore, JK Rowling, Sir Patrick Stewart, and Emma Watson.

The nominees are public figures who have made it part of their mission to advance LGBT rights. And as the first member of the British Royal Family to have been photographed for the cover of an LGBT magazine, William has broken new ground.

Attitude arranged a meeting at Kensington Palace between Prince William and members of the LGBT community. At the meeting, Wills learned about their experiences with bullying.

After the meeting, he said: "No-one should be bullied for their sexuality or any other reason and no-one should have to put up with the kind of hate that these young people have endured in their lives."

"The young gay, lesbian and transgender individuals I met through *Attitude* are truly brave to speak out and to give hope to people who are going through terrible bullying right now."

"Their sense of strength and optimism should give us all encouragement to stand up to bullying wherever we see it."

"What I would say to any young person reading this who's being bullied for their sexuality: don't put up with it – speak to a trusted adult, a friend, a teacher, Childline, Diana Award or some other service and get the help you need. You should be proud of the person you are and you have nothing to be ashamed of."

The award winners will be announced in May.

To vote for Prince William, go to [britishlgbtawards.com](http://britishlgbtawards.com)



**JK Rowling, Ariana Grande and Patrick Stewart are among William's rivals for the award**







# Why Windsor Castle could be trump card

**C**OURTIERS facing the potential security nightmare of President Trump staying at Buckingham Palace during his forthcoming state visit are believed to have proposed a win-win alternative – that he stays at Windsor Castle instead.

The Donald is understood to be keen to take up Theresa May's invitation for him to visit London this year – but ever since she asked him to come and stay at the palace, all manner of protests have kicked off.

The original plan was for President Trump and the First Family to sleep over for a few nights at the palace and ride from there in an antique royal coach to Parliament, where he would address members of both the Commons and the Lords.

However, this pitch has somewhat been queered by Speaker John Bercow making it more than abundantly clear that he doesn't want President Trump in his House and by hundreds of thousands of women who intend to stridently demonstrate in fetching pussyhats along the route of the palace to Parliament.

On top of that, security planners have warned that the cost of policing the visit, which would involve deploying the SAS, MI5, MI6 and thousands of cops alongside President Trump's own massive security detail, could be more than £10 million.

Clearly then, from Mrs May's point of view, having President Trump kip down at Buckingham Palace presents all sorts of risks of turning into a publicity disaster at best, and premiers on both sides of the Atlantic are believed to be currently thinking "Who needs this?"

However, with an adroit shimmy, all could be made well – if President and Mrs Trump stay at Windsor Castle instead.

If, the argument goes, he was to helpfully discover that his busy diary meant that he could only manage a long weekend break, but he still wanted to meet the Queen, then by rights he would have to go to Windsor, because that's where Her Majesty goes every Thursday afternoon for a few days.

As, it has now been discovered, that White House officials are briefing that President Trump isn't that fussed about addressing Parliament anyway, going to Windsor would not matter ceremonially. But switching the venue would provide major advantages.

First, it's a castle; built as a fortress to defend against far more formidable foes than legions of women wearing tea cosies and much easier to be tightly secured against Islamist extremists who it is feared could attempt an attack on President Trump if he rode in a carriage up The Mall.



Second, Windsor is permanently protected by the Castle Guard of a large number of crack troops who could easily be augmented with the addition of SAS troops and police snipers without much effort.

Third, Windsor is the Queen's principal weekend retreat. Buckingham Palace is merely Her Majesty's working-week office, to which she has to trudge for meetings with ministers and investitures. But as Mrs May plainly wants to make a fuss of President Trump and make him feel special, how better to achieve that than staying in the Queen's very own private gaff, as if one of the family? It's an upgrade.

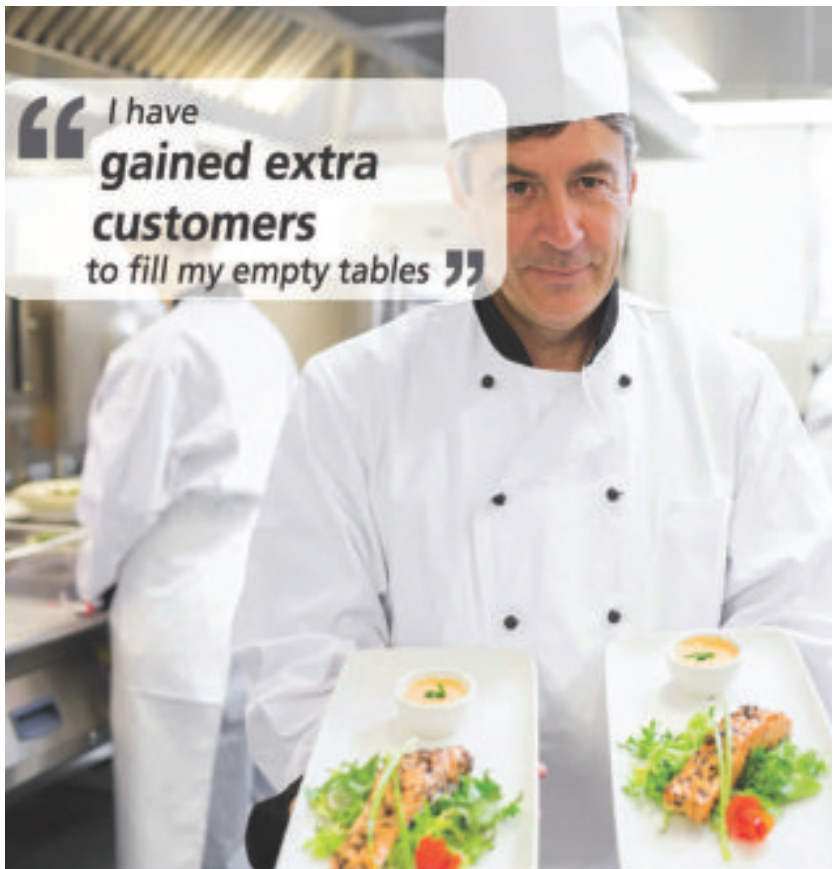
Fourth, the historic trappings of Windsor are said to be far more mind-blowing and impressive than Buckingham Palace. The castle's lavish early-19th-century state apartments were described by the art historian Hugh Roberts as "a superb and unrivalled sequence of rooms widely regarded as the finest and most complete expression of later Georgian taste".

Fifth, there is precedent – an important consideration in diplomacy – as the castle has often been used for state banquets and official entertaining, and in recent years it has hosted visits from President Mbeki of South Africa, King Abdullah II of Jordan and President Chirac of France.

Sixth, President Reagan – the president whose style President Trump's is appearing to most resemble – stayed there in 1982, when the former film star and Her Majesty went horse riding in Windsor Great Park. President Obama also visited the Queen at Windsor.

And finally, Sir Elton John, one of President Trump's favourite rock stars, lives just over the road and may be up for popping in to do a spot of *Captain Fantastic* cabaret.

Yes, Sir Elton did refuse to perform at the Donald's recent inauguration but he's a bit of a royal favourite and he might have a change of heart for the Queen, with whom he bizarrely once danced – to *Rock Around The Clock* – at Prince Andrew's 21st birthday party.



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# St Patrick's Day celebrations will be biggest yet – mayor

BY GEOFF BAKER  
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

SADIQ Khan is planning more than just a drop of the Irish for this year's St Patrick's Day celebrations, vowing to make them the largest ever seen in the city.

The capital's mayor has pledged to make the festivities the most impressive showcase of Irish culture and talent yet, bringing Londoners from all communities and visitors together for a celebration of the contribution Irish people have made to the city for centuries.

Kicking off on St Patrick's Day (Friday March 17), Irish culture, food, dance and festivity will pop up across the capital for a three-day extravaganza, all inspired by the Emerald Isle and energised by London's large Irish community.

"Key attractions include cinemas around the West End staging the latest Irish short films, comedy, drama and family workshops, an Irish cultural trail in Camden Market which will lead Londoners down a path of music and markets, as well as a lecture from Irish author and journalist Mary Kenny on *Perspectives on Irish Feminism* at City Hall," said the mayor's spokesman.

"Tasty tipples will be the focal point of the celebrations in Hoxton as 40FT Brewery hosts a range of independent brewers and distillers from Ireland. To top it all off, there will be well-known Irish names reciting their favourite poetry on the Tube, Irish musicians busking on the Underground and Ireland's foremost folk band, Kila, raising the roof at Camden Market, as well as a treasure hunt to explore the history of Irish Londoners."

The festival will culminate in a climatic finale on the Sunday with the world-renowned parade and stage line-up.

With famed presenter and comedian Dara O Briain enlisted as the parade's grand marshal, the colourful procession of Irish marching bands, energetic dance troupes and spectacular pageantry will begin at



Green Park, passing from Piccadilly to Whitehall.

Master storytellers Macnas will be one of the centrepieces of the parade with their world-class theatrical spectacle.

Trafalgar Square will host the closing concert and focal point of the festival on the Sunday with "a world-class line-up of Irish culture and community on the main stage".

Holding the show together will be award-winning Irish comedian Jarlath Regan and the house band of RTE's *Late Late Show*.

## Flashback to last year's St Patrick's Day celebrations in London

Pictures: Amelia Rabin/ SWNS

The schedule will include performances from Liam O'Maonlai, Lisa Lambe, Jack L and The Rusangano Family, emerging trad innovators from Belfast.

The #IAMIrish collective will also present a fusion of Irish music with other world music and dance, and Trafalgar Square will bounce and jig to Irish dancing showcases from the Maguire O'Shea Academy of Irish Dance.



The event will close with a big sing-along finale, which will feature, among others, three powerful female voices from Ireland, as yet unannounced.

Mr Khan said: "I'm incredibly proud to host the biggest St Patrick's Festival London has ever seen, an opportunity for Londoners from all backgrounds and visitors to the capital to immerse themselves in the festivities and experience Irish culture at its best.

"For me, that's what occasions like this are all about – people from all communities embracing and celebrating each, showing that London is truly open... open to people, open for business and open to new ideas.

"I believe the Irish community here embodies that spirit and those values and represents London at its outward-looking and inclusive best. A very Happy St Patrick's Day to everyone celebrating here, in Ireland and around the world."

Gary Dunne, creative programmer of London's St Patrick's Cultural Festival, said: "This is a jam-packed programme – one of our biggest and best yet. It presents an experience which is as diverse, energetic and creative as this great city's Irish community. Through music, song, dance and community, we'll bring that very special experience of Irish culture and craic to the heart of London."

The full programme is at [london.gov.uk/stpatricks](http://london.gov.uk/stpatricks).

## Cops' new crackdown on drivers who phone

THE Met has warned motorists that it will be using officers in unmarked vans and spotters on high buildings throughout the capital to crack down on drivers using mobile phones – including those texting when stationary.

As new penalties of six points on the licence and a £200 fine are now in force, police have launched an undercover campaign to nab those phoning or texting at the wheel.

"The Met's Roads and Transport Policing Command is again cracking down on mobile-phone use by drivers, in targeted operations to prosecute offenders and drive home the risks and consequences of distraction driving," said a police spokesman.

"The campaign is set up to coincide with the new penalties implemented by the Department for Transport which have raised the penalties for using a mobile phone while driving. Those caught will now be given double the previous penalties."

The spokesman said the RTPC will deploy "dedicated patrols by officers using unmarked vans, helmet cams, high-seated vehicles and high vantage points" to catch offenders. This will include drivers stopped at traffic lights or using their phone while in traffic queues.

Ch Insp Colin Carswell, from the RTPC, said: "We will use a variety of tactics to deal with drivers who present a risk to other road users.

"Using a hand-held mobile phone while driving means a driver's attention is distracted from the road and is, after speeding, probably the most dangerous thing a driver can do – leading to people being killed and injured on our roads.

"You're slower at recognising and reacting to hazards if you are driving and using a mobile phone.

"Making a call or sending a text is distracting and can have very serious consequences.

"The grief of a family who have lost a loved one following a traffic collision is immeasurable. Is a phone call to text message really that important? The only thing drivers should be concentrating on is driving."

Siwan Hayward, Transport for London's head of transport policing, said: "The number of people killed or seriously injured on London's roads continues to fall – however, distraction remains one of the key sources of road danger.

"The rising trend of collisions involving the use of hand-held mobile phones is deeply concerning to us.

"This is why we are stepping up our activity with the Metropolitan Police Service and other partners to address this issue and make our roads safer for everyone."

Between April 6 2016 and February 27 2017 there was a total of 9,560 mobile-phone offences within the Metropolitan Police area.

# Schools 'need an extra £335m'

SADIQ Khan is demanding an extra £335 million from the government to fund schooling – or else London pupils "will be hit hard" by spending cuts.

The mayor warns that cuts to school funding will "significantly hit pupils across the capital, undermining everything London's teachers have worked to achieve" and will damage the city's reputation as an education leader.

In a keynote address to education leaders and experts from around the globe at his first education conference at City Hall, Mr Khan called on the government to invest in the education sector and increase standards across the country by giving schools the resources to match London's high overall performance.

Seventy per cent of London schools face reductions in funding under the government's new pro-

posals for the national funding formula, currently under consultation. This comes alongside the threat of an eight per cent real-term shortfall in funding per pupil across the country by 2019-20, as a result of £3 billion worth of cuts.

"The capital's schools are the highest performing in the country but are already under considerable financial pressure and experiencing severe problems recruiting and retaining teachers due to the expense of living in the capital," said the mayor's spokesman.

London Councils, which represents the 33 boroughs in the capital, estimates an extra £335 million would ensure no school across the whole of England loses out in the new formula.

Mr Khan, said: "At a time when our capital's schools are already dealing with looming budget cuts

and struggling to recruit teachers, it is completely unacceptable that the government has chosen to hit London's children the hardest.

"As a mayor for all Londoners, I want to see our young people get the best chance in life possible, with funding going into local schools rather than expanding a selective system.

"London has reaped the benefits of investment and become an international beacon for education, with a proven track record in supporting disadvantaged pupils. However, these proposals risk undermining everything our excellent teachers have worked to achieve. A minuscule portion of the budget would ensure no school across England has to lose out in this formula, and I am committed to working with education leaders to fight strongly for a fairly funded school system and

nurturing our capital's young talent for generations to come."

Cllr Claire Kober, chairman of London Councils, said: "An extra £335 million from government would ensure no school in the country loses funding as a result of the new national funding formula.

"It has been our long-held belief that investing in education would give all schools the tools to match the educational success that London has achieved.

"When the impact of introducing the new formula and wider cost pressures are taken into account, every school in the capital will face budget squeezes in the years ahead.

"The consequences of poorly funded schools will reverberate across the capital and affect all Londoners, which is why we are pressing government to review its stance on schools funding."



# All aboard for display of pics of vandalised bus shelters

YOU wait ages for a new piece of urban art – then 50 come along at once, featuring graffiti-riddled bus stops.

Stephen Calcutt started taking pics of vandalised shelters as a hobby just six months ago while travelling to work on the bus.

Care worker Stephen is now selling 50 photographs for £555 each and will be displaying his work in a London exhibition this month.

Stephen, 55, said: “I first started taking pictures of bus stops when I was waiting at a shelter with a badly scratched window.

“I was annoyed because it was ruining the view.

But I took some pictures anyway and loaded them on to my computer at home.

“Once I enhanced the colours, and played around with the contrast and shadow, they looked a bit like abstract paintings.

“Now I fix my camera on the etched lines and put the view beyond out of focus.

“I do appreciate some graffiti for its artistic side – there are some amazing murals out there.

“I love the visual humour of Banksy and then there was Goldie from Wolverhampton.

“Also I understand that graffiti sometimes comes from frustration or people wanting to say something, declare their love or protest. I was a punk in the 1980s so I get it.

“I just find that the dullest scrawls are the worst. If it’s purely to damage, I have less sympathy.

“With my images, I basically try to create something beautiful out of the dull graffiti and an often mundane view.

“I feel I’ve captured the frustration of the bus-stop graffiti – it gives the photo energy.

“I think the actual view alone is fairly mundane but when merged with the random slashing of the graffiti it can create a powerful image.”

Stephen’s photographs – taken in Birmingham – are available to buy from Saatchi Art. The West Midlands-based lensman’s first exhibition will take place at the London Art Biennale from March 29 to April 2 in Chelsea Old Town Hall.



Pictures: Stephen Calcutt

# Mystery of Big Ben bong revealed

THE mystery of Big Ben’s distinctive bong has been uncovered by scientists.

For the first time, the famous bell has been vibration-mapped to reveal why it produces its distinct harmonious tone.

And it is all because Big Ben is thicker than other bells of a similar size, weighing more and as a result has a higher pitch than expected for its diameter.

The team from the University of Leicester’s Department of Engineering measured the structural dynamics of Big Ben in an unprecedented level of detail after being given exclusive access to the iconic structure as it struck 10am, 11am and noon.

When a bell is struck, the impact causes a number of different vibrations or modes.

The frequency and intensity of these modes are predominantly affected by the profile of the bell, the team from the university’s Advanced Structural Dynamics Evaluation Centre found.

The study was part of a BBC Four documentary on sound – *Sound Waves: The Symphony Of Physics*, which was broadcast last week.

The scientists used a measurement technique called laser doppler vibrometry by creating a 3D computer model of Big Ben and then using lasers to map the vibrations in the metal of the bell as it chimed.

Using two scanning laser doppler vibrometers, the team characterised Big Ben without touching it, providing high-density vibration measurements without any loss of accuracy or precision.

Technical specialist Martin Cockrill said: “Aside from the technical aspects, one of the most challenging parts of the job was carrying all of our equipment up the 334 steps of the spiral staircase to the belfry.

“Then to get everything set up before the first chime, we were literally working against the clock.

“Many of the vibrations in the metal of Big Ben are too tiny to be seen by the naked eye.

“But this is what we were able to map using the lasers and not just one or two points on the surface. We were able to get more than 500 measurements across the surface which just wouldn’t have been possible with previous technologies.”

Big Ben is the nickname for the Great Bell of the clock at the north end of the Palace of Westminster. The tower is officially known as Elizabeth Tower, renamed to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Elizabeth II in 2012.

Mr Cockrill said: “This was such a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, one which was perfectly matched to our skills and resources.

“You cannot just glue sensors to a national treasure such as Big Ben. Our ability to do the whole thing quickly without touching the bell was key to the whole project.”

Graduate engineer Max Chowanietz led the team from a technical point of view, undertaking the measurements, with two other members of the team, Chris Howe and Amy Stubbs, doing the legwork.

Max said: “It was a privilege to be part of such a unique project, especially so early in my career.”



Members of the University of Leicester team carry out their study of Big Ben in a bid to uncover the mystery of its distinctive bong

Picture: BBC/SWNS

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# Capital nights

## gigguide

Compiled by Jack Dixon



### Hamilton Leithauser

Village Underground, Shoreditch  
**Tuesday March 7**  
Former frontman with Yank indie rockers The Walkmen, Leithauser is now an artful wordsmith in his own right. After the band decided to call it a day in 2015, he set upon a solo career and teamed up with Vampire Weekend's Rostam Batmanglij for the well-received *I Had A Dream That You Were Mine*. His strained, rasping vocals recall Bob Dylan at his brilliant best.



### The xx

O2 Academy, Brixton  
**Wednesday March 8 to Wednesday March 15**  
The Wandsworth trio return to south west London for a triumphant seven-night homecoming to celebrate the success of their all-conquering third album *I See You*. It sees the band at their most personal, duelling boy/girl vocals playing out over slick beats and clever, snatched samples. The band is now among Britain's hottest musical properties.



### Stornoway

O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire  
**Friday March 10**  
After more than 10 years playing together, Oxford favourites Stornoway return to UK stages for the last time. Formed in 2005, the band have had an undoubtedly stellar career, full of landmark moments, including three studio albums, a surprise mini-album and two EPs. But they have decided to finally call it a day – and will be giving fans a last treat before hanging up their guitars.

**T**READING the fine line between shock and offence is an art in itself. And there are few finer exponents than Jimmy Carr.

With his highly charged material spanning all manner of taboo subjects, the original 'punslinger' is a master craftsman when it comes to making audiences gasp.

Carr touches topics that no other comedian dares to dance with – to varying degrees of success, depending on the prudishness of the audience – and undoubtedly pushes boundaries in a way that perhaps only Frankie Boyle among his contemporaries attempts.

It will be to a mixed reception of delight and disgust then that Carr returns to West London next month on the back of a marathon UK tour.

It is billed *The Best Of, Ultimate, Gold, Greatest Hits Tour* – and fans can expect to see Carr on top form.

He promises a blend of his very best one-liners along with a bundle of fresh material, as he takes on a meandering circuit of the nation's comedy clubs – from the Grimsby Auditorium to the O2 later in the year.

Never far from controversy, the host of Channel 4's beloved panel show *8 Out Of 10 Cats* has become a worldwide comedy phenomenon and recently premiered his first Netflix Comedy Special, *Funny Business*.

"If you are easily offended, don't be a d\*\*\* about it," the star's website proclaims of the show.

It's a winning philosophy that Carr has managed to mould into a money-spinning comedy career.

But it's not without its danger zones. Along with Ricky Gervais, he is routinely pilloried for his outlandish one-liners on everything

Previewing  
**JIMMY CARR**  
at Hammersmith  
and Brixton



from religion and gender to age and disability.

In one retort at the Press, Carr claimed that journalists slavishly hunting a story were the only ones who 'wanted' to be offended by his material. But does he ever feel guilty about telling a risqué joke?

"No. I wrote it, I rehearsed it and then I said it," he explained in a recent interview with *ShortList*.

"Some thought has gone into that. You don't just say things by accident as a comedian – you've got to stand by what you say."

Amassing around 300 punchlines a night can be tough going – and Carr says the parade of panel shows can inflict him with a kind of 'joke Tourette's' where he's unable to resist flinging puns at the shopkeeper as he picks up a pint of milk.

With occasional appearances on *QI*, *A League Of Their Own* and *Have I Got News For You* also among his armoury, Carr is now a familiar face behind the desk of a TV quiz.

But despite its addictive draw-

backs, Carr says life in front of the camera lens is still a relative walk in the park.

"I probably come across as (a workaholic) because if I were doing a normal job, I'd be working too hard," he says.

"But it's just telling jokes. It's basically a night out. And I'm the centre of attention."

Comedian Jimmy Carr will appear at the Eventim Apollo in Hammersmith on April 28 and 29 – and at the O2 Academy in Brixton on June 24.

## Classics reinstated

**Y**OU read it here first, as they say. Fifty years on from the release of the album generally rated to be the most influential of all time, The Beatles are finally releasing *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* as they had first intended it to sound.

And that means that the anniversary reissue of the seminal album will now include *Strawberry Fields Forever* and *Penny Lane* among the tracks.

Although the two classics were the first songs that John Lennon and Paul McCartney wrote for the record, they were pulled because back in the Sixties The Beatles had a rule that songs that were singles should not appear on their albums.

Consequently most of their big

hits never did. *Hey Jude*, for instance, was left off *The White Album* for the same reason as *Strawberry Fields Forever* and *Penny Lane* did not make it on to *Pepper*, because the band's record company, EMI, demanded songs for a new single.

But now, at long last, the original songs are to be reinstated for the big birthday re-release on June 1.

And as the advertising tag line for the 'new' album is bound to be "It was 50 years ago today" and as many from that era, including the surviving band members Sir Paul and Ringo Starr, are now greying a bit – Sir Paul will be 75 in June and Ringo is 77 the month after – wags are suggesting that it is re-named *Sgt Salt & Pepper*.





# Capital nights

**N**AME an artist who has done more to shape the direction of modern music and you'll be hard pressed to pick out anyone with such a significant contribution under his belt as John Mayall.

He is one of the most prolific British musicians of all time in any genre, let alone that which has given him the prestigious title Godfather of the Blues.

Having amassed more than 60 albums over a career spanning six decades, the legendary Mayall is now set to embark on a massive UK tour – featuring an eye-catching double-header at the Cadogan Hall in Chelsea.

The shows follow on from the release of his latest record, *Talk About That* – remarkably, his 65th album of original material.

At the ripe age of 83, Mayall is one of music's longest-serving veterans. But if there is one style that grants the player the opportunity to age gracefully, it is certainly the blues.

"A certain maturity sets in after you've been playing for so long," Mayall said in a 2011 interview with *No Depression* magazine, when asked how his approach had changed over the decades.

"You know yourself better and what works, and I think the experience you have with your tools of the trade – which in my case are keyboards, harmonica and sometimes the guitar – shows over time as you become more assured.

"You express yourself through the music and the longer you play, the more assured you get and the more refined your expression is."

There have been fewer greater champions of the blues during the 20th – and 21st – centuries.

But Mayall has never quite received the kind of popular acclaim that his incredible body of work deserves.

In fact, in the minds of part-time fans, his fame has come more from the musicians he has mentored than his own work.

The likes of Eric Clapton, Mick Taylor and Fleetwood Mac's Peter Green all featured in various line-ups of his legendary 1960s super-group John Mayall And The Bluesbreakers, and the icons of the era casually drop his name as a key influence on the scene.

Alongside his work with some of rock's future greats, Mayall found fame across the Pond. He was heralded for his innovations in jazz and rock as well as his beloved blues, and scooped a Grammy for his 1993 album *Wake Up Call*, which featured guest appearances from Taylor, Mavis Staples and Buddy Guy.

Lauded with critical acclaim throughout his career, Mayall was appointed OBE for services to British music in 2005 and was inducted – albeit long overdue – into the Blues Hall Of Fame last year.

This crowning moment came eight years after Mayall officially retired the Bluesbreakers name. But he is now touring again as a trio with bass player George Rzab and drummer Jay Davenport. And his songs remain as dynamic and bold as ever.

Despite being an ever-present at each turning point in the genre's illustrious history, Mayall has resisted the lures of technology.

His current shows are stripped-back blues affairs, often with very little equipment on stage.

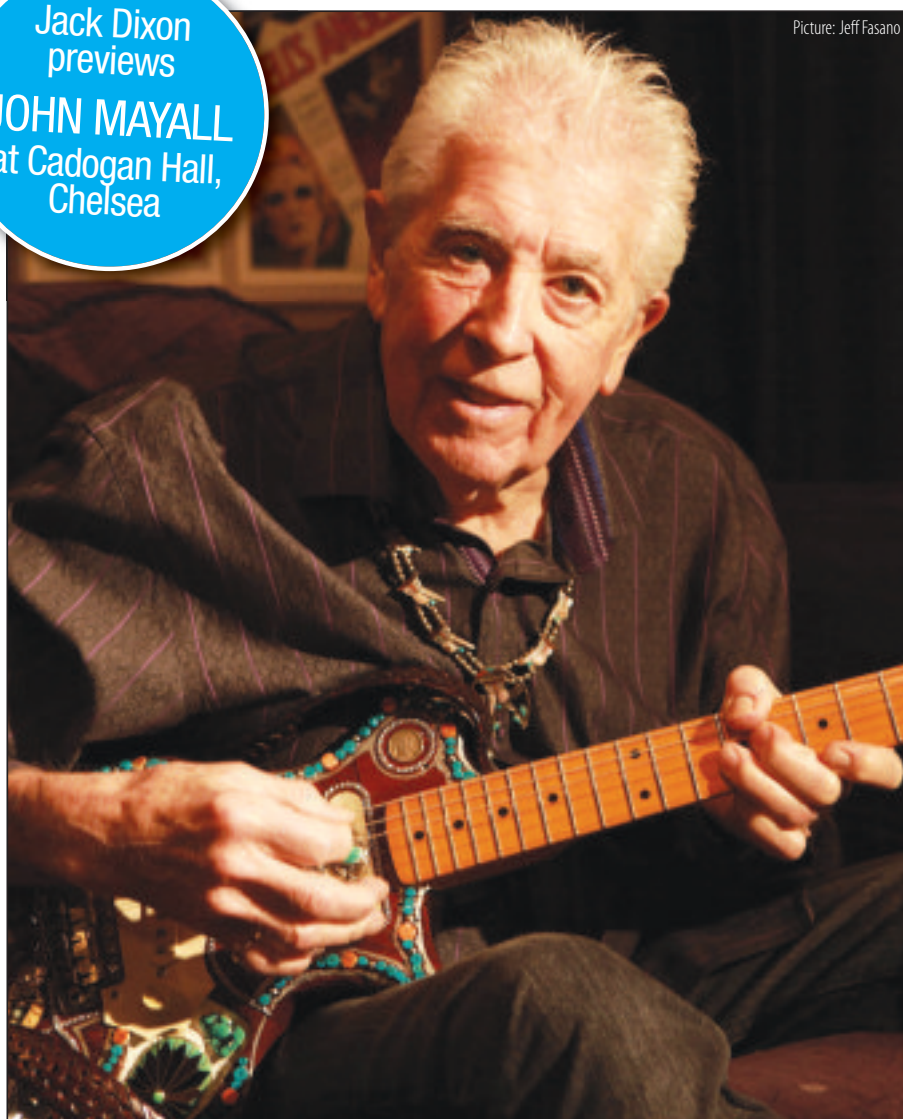
"We sometimes play on the same bill with other acts that have mountains of equipment – two giant keyboards, speakers all over the place, you know, banks of monitors all over the stage – and we have virtually nothing," he says. "We're pretty minimalistic."

Even without the fully charged stage set-up behind him, Mayall remains one of the most powerful players in the game.

*John Mayall and his band will perform along with special guests the Buddy Whittington Band at the Cadogan Hall on November 2 and 3.*

Jack Dixon  
previews

JOHN MAYALL  
at Cadogan Hall,  
Chelsea



Picture: Jeff Fasano

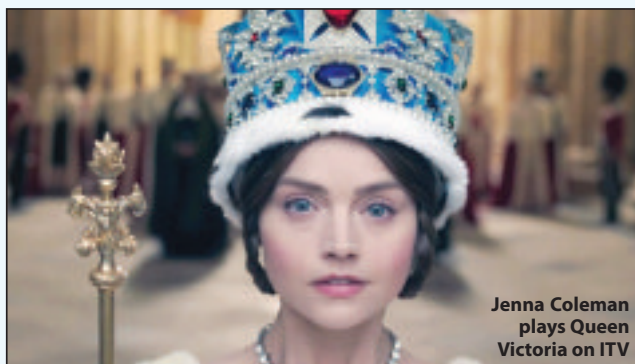
## ITV to focus on Victoria's 'modern dilemma'

GOOD news for Her Majesty – ITV is setting aside two hours on Christmas Day to grab the attention of the Queen and other alleged fans of its hit drama *Victoria*.

Filming has begun on the second series and the marathon Christmas special, in which we'll see Queen Victoria facing of the struggles of motherhood.

"As well as much drama in Buckingham Palace, the series will include trips to France and Germany, touch on tragedy in Ireland and war in Afghanistan, and see Victoria and Albert discovering sanctuary in the Isle of Wight," said an ITV spokesman.

The hugely successful drama's creator, Daisy Goodwin, said: "In series one Victoria married the handsome prince but in this series she and Albert get down to the serious business of living happily,



Jenna Coleman  
plays Queen  
Victoria on ITV

sometimes stormily, ever after. Victoria is the only queen regnant to marry and give birth while on the throne and the challenges of being head of state as well as a wife and mother are legion.

"In many ways Victoria's dilemma is a modern one – how do

you have a successful marriage and a happy family when you are holding down an important job. Can you really have it all?"

One supposes that if you ruled more than one fifth of the world's population for 64 years, the answer to that may be 'Yes'.

## Nadiya's return

EVERYBODY'S favourite *Great British Bake Off* winner, Nadiya Hussain, is to become the new Keith Floyd.

Well not quite, as she hasn't turned to the bottle. But she has been signed by the BBC to "do a Floyd" or a Rick Stein and follow in the coast-to-coast cooking series of many a chef by hosting her own culinary road trip, an eight-part series called *Nadiya's British Food Adventure*.

"It's a brand new series for BBC Two, which sees her travel the length and breadth of the country seeking out all that is great about British food today. In each episode Nadiya visits a different region to discover some of our most exciting food pioneers, before taking us into the kitchen to create her own delicious recipes," said a salivating BBC spokesman.

After winning *The Great British Bake Off* in 2015 and ex-

ploring her Bangladeshi roots in *The Chronicles Of Nadiya* in 2016, this series sees Nadiya on a voyage of discovery across Britain, from the Highlands of Scotland to the coasts of Devon and Dorset, to find and taste the very best that the country has to offer.

And, if you cook a bit, you could find yourself on the show.

"Nadiya wants to find inspiration from local heroes who are creating unique 'food stories' and reviving artisan food traditions, meeting the passionate farmers, growers and fishermen who are the backbone of the British food scene," said the spokesman.

Nadiya said: "Our country's regional cuisine is much more than tried and tested traditional dishes – there are quirky and clever food producers out there who are reinventing British food in unique and exciting ways."



# Talk of the town

## REVIEW



Frances Ruffelle  
as Queenie in  
*The Wild Party*  
Picture: Scott Rylander

The Wild Party  
The Other Palace  
☆☆☆

A STORY filled with sexual debauchery and sin seems a provocative choice to herald the opening of The Other Palace, formerly the St James Theatre, writes Nicky Sweetland.

But their regal neighbours from around corner at Buckingham Palace can look on in rueful envy as audiences are transported to an era of filth and fun in Michael John La Chiusa and George C Wolfe's *The Wild Party*.

Full of seedy characters, *The Wild Party* is based on a narrative poem by New York journalist and screenwriter Joseph Moncure March and follows fading vaudeville chorine Queenie (Frances Ruffelle) and her imposing and intimidating husband Burrs (John Owen-Jones) as they put on a soiree for their colourful friends and colleagues.

The resulting revelry gradually descends into a sinful night packed with regret, with baths filled with gin and narcotics freely consumed as infidelities become

apparent and resentments rife.

The tale is told through a series of characters, as a gigolo, an ex-boxing champion and a pair of drag kings depict their internal battles.

And although the string of narrative is at times a little thin, the performances from the stellar cast and the frantic and exuberant choreography by Drew McConie allow the audience to fall into a trance and be carried along as if in a drug-induced stupor.

Ruffelle's sassy yet vulnerable Queenie is utterly captivating, while Owen-Jones is masterful as the imposing Burrs and Victoria Hamilton-Barritt's smoky and seductive vocals fit perfectly with La Chiusa's mesmerising score.

To celebrate the opening of a newly branded performance space with a theatrical party is a clever move by producer Paul Taylor-Mills. If this sensational shindig is anything to go by, there is an exciting future for The Other Palace.

*The Wild Party* runs at The Other Palace until April 1. For more details, see [theotherpalace.co.uk/theatre/wild-party](http://theotherpalace.co.uk/theatre/wild-party).

**T**O celebrate more than 60 years since *Hancock's Half Hour* began, acclaimed impressionist James Hurn will be performing three classic episodes of the renowned series at the London Museum Of Comedy and voicing all of the characters himself, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The beloved radio comedy, which also became a hit television series, was written by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson and starred Tony Hancock as an exaggerated version of his himself – Anthony Aloysius St John Hancock, a down-at-heel comedian living at the dilapidated 23 Railway Cuttings in East Cheam.

In his new stage show, Hurn will recreate three classic episodes – *Sunday Afternoon At Home*, *The 13th Of The Series* and *The Missing Page*.

Hurn is an actor and impressionist best known for appearances in BBC Two's *Dead Ringers* and BBC One's *Scoop*, *The Slammer*, *Spoof* and *Mrs Bradley Mysteries* and as Jacobson in *Band Of Brothers*, directed by Tom Hanks. He has also put his vocal talents to work in shows such as Channel 4's *Sven: The Coach*, *The Cash And His Lovers*, where he took the title role, and *Blaired Vision* where he provided the voices for many British politicians and George Bush.

Hurn is also no stranger to the stage and has performed in numerous theatre roles, including the extremely popular London West End show *The 39 Steps*, and starred as the voices of David Beckham and Prince William in BBC Radio 4 play *The Bid*.

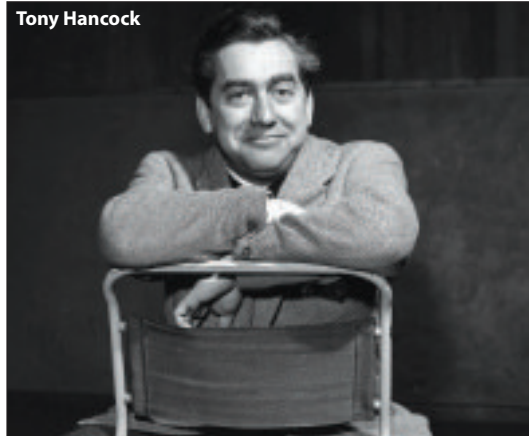
Hurn will be performing the *Hancock's Half Hour* episodes in the style of a radio show in front of a live audience, bringing to life the classic days of radio comedy.

He said: "I perform it as if I'm all of those actors in front of the microphone and in front of a live audience as if it's one of the recording days of a radio piece."

It's not just the old guard whom Hurn can take off. More recently the impressionist has turned his talents to a much more contemporary voice in the shape of the new American president, with his videos of Donald Trump gaining a huge following on social media.

Hurn said: "For any impressionist or comedian it's like a goldmine – there's so much material there. He's brilliant at the comedy himself – a bit like George Bush was – he'd just make up words and so for anyone who does comedy it's a goldmine."

Tony Hancock



Previewing  
**HANCOCK'S  
HALF HOUR**  
at London Museum  
Of Comedy



James Hurn as Tony Hancock

*Hancock's Half Hour* heralded a change in the format of television situation comedy and was seen as a forerunner for the style of show we see today, with a focus on character development and a stellar cast of household names including many of the *Carry On* alumni.

Hurn has long been an admirer of the series and after learning of the 60th anniversary of the show decided to have a go at recording an episode.

The YouTube video elicited a hugely positive response and so the stage show took form. Following a successful tryout in Kentish Town, the talented performer decided to take the show out to a wider audience.

As well as the revered comedian Tony Hancock, *Hancock's Half Hour* starred Sid James, Bill Kerr, Hattie Jacques and Kenneth Williams.

Hurn has had to extensively rehearse their voices in order to perfect each nuance and to be able to switch from one to another at lightning quick speed.

He said: "It takes a lot of practice, especially when you're playing all of the char-

acters within a half-hour piece; you've got to be very quick.

"You can't leave big pauses to get your brain into gear, while you think about how the next voice sounds."

Although Hurn found changing his voice to make it resonate with feminine guiles for his impression of Hattie Jacques a challenge, he admits it was the Cockney twang of Sid James which has proved the most difficult to master.

"Whenever you hear people doing Sid James it's always quite generic Cockney but I'd never really thought about his voice before, so I read his autobiography and discovered where he came from," said Hurn.

"He was originally from South Africa, so when I started, I would say his lines in just a South African accent and I then added the East End twang and lowered it.

"Sid James used to smoke, so I had to emulate that. There were lots of layers to Sid James' voice."

The virtuoso vocal artist also performs many of the sound effects with his voice, including the opening of car doors and doorbells chiming, in the highly energetic piece of comedy theatrics.

*Hancock's Half Hour: One Man, Many Voices* will be at the Museum Of Comedy on March 12. For more details, visit website [museumofcomedy.ticketsolve.com/#/shows/873567074](http://museumofcomedy.ticketsolve.com/#/shows/873567074).



# Talk of the town

**Y**OU must have been living under a rock for the last 18 years to have not heard of *Calendar Girls* – and now the inspirational tale has been given a new lease of life by Tim Firth and Gary Barlow in their tremendous new musical version.

The pair have cleverly captured the enduring appeal of the very British story of heroism.

And unlike in the smash-hit film – which starred Helen Mirren and Julie Walters – and subsequent stage play, Firth and Barlow have ensured the community are at the heart of the action, which gives a more definitive depth to the beloved account of a group of women who bare all for a charity calendar.

Firth's ability to marry comedy and tragedy are fully apparent throughout with lines which will have you crying with laughter one minute and sobbing in your seat the next – and when coupled with Barlow's gorgeous melodies, the collaboration becomes a masterful piece of musical comedy.

The real boon by the childhood friends, however, is the ability to make the story feel as if it is your own, which is undoubtedly down to the continued involvement of the real *Calendar Girls*. But it is also helped by the cohesion of the music and lyrics and the outstanding group of actors they have gathered to portray the true story with guts and gusto.

Double Olivier Award winner Joanna Riding proves her calibre once

again with a profound portrayal as Annie – whose husband John (James Gaddas) is diagnosed with leukemia – and breaks the hearts of the audience not once but twice when she first sings *Scarborough*, recounting their holidays together, and then *Kilimanjaro*, a song about the mountain she now has to climb as a widow.

Her gregarious best friend Chris – played with a generous helping of frivolous froth by Claire Moore – takes it upon herself to provide a distraction.

And after cajoling their friends from the local WI group, the famous calendar shoot takes shape.

Unlike in the film, the photo session becomes the finale of the show, which enables each of the colourful characters to fully establish themselves prior to the big reveal.

Claire Machin's fraught single mum, Sophie-Louise Dann's voluptuous society wench and Debbie Chazen's vodka-loving wallflower all emerge from their struggles to come into full bloom.

Michelle Dotrice provides comedy gold throughout as the aged Jessie, with her *What Age Expects* giving the more mature theatregoers an anthem.

And Josh Benson and Ben Hunter give an insight into the other end of the age spectrum with highly amus-



Nicky Sweetland  
reviews  
**THE GIRLS**  
☆☆☆☆☆

From left, Claire Machin, Sophie-Louise Dann, Joanna Riding, Claire Moore and Debbie Chazen in *The Girls*

Picture: Matt Crockett, Dewynters

ing portrayals of angsty teens.

Robert Jones' picturesque design perfectly captures the landscape of the Yorkshire Dales, with homely household cupboards set into the hills and fields of sunflowers injecting a bright and hopeful backdrop which encapsulates the sentiment of this wonderful heartwarming show.

*The Girls* is running at the Phoenix Theatre. For more details, visit website [thegirlsmusical.com](http://thegirlsmusical.com).

THE producers of *Cilla The Musical* will hold national open auditions in the hunt to discover their 'Cilla' in the same way the star herself was plucked from obscurity before becoming the iconic Liverpudlian songbird.

The new musical about the life and legend of Cilla Black will open in her hometown before embarking on a nationwide tour which will include a visit to the New Wimbledon Theatre in November.

The story follows the extraordinary life of ordinary teenager Priscilla White, and her rocky, yet incredible, rise to fame.

Whoever is chosen to be the lucky leading lady will need to be a versatile performer as they follow in the footsteps of the beloved star, who by the age of just 25 was recognised as international singing sensation.

By the age of 30 she had become



Britain's favourite television entertainer – and she went on to headline series of *Blind Date*, *Surprise Surprise* and many more.

The musical score will be the ultimate soundtrack to the 1960s including Cilla's greatest hits *Anyone Who Had A Heart*, *Alfie* and *Something Tells Me*, alongside a backdrop of the legendary Liverpool Sound including The Beatles, and American influences like The Mamas And The

Papas.

Cilla's son Robert Willis will be the executive producer of the spectacular and heartwarming musical adaptation of the critically acclaimed ITV mini-series based on her early life.

*Cilla The Musical* will run at the New Wimbledon Theatre from November 7 to 11. For more details, see [atgtickets.com/wimbledon](http://atgtickets.com/wimbledon).

## FREE message

HAPPY  
Mother's  
DAY  
Sunday 26th March

Why don't you tell your Mum how special she is by placing a message within one of our newspapers. Your message will appear as the example shown.

HAPPY Mother's DAY  
Mummy Clarry  
Happy Mother's Day  
Love you to the moon and back  
Lots of love  
Your Boys XXX

Example is actual size (6.4cm x 4cm)

Please complete this coupon, tick the newspaper you would like your message to appear in and send to the address below.

☐ South London Press Tuesday  
Published 7.30am - please send to: 11th March

☐ The Mercury  
Published 7.30am - please send to: 11th March

☐ London News  
Published 7.30am - please send to: 11th March

☐ South London Press Friday  
Published 7.30am - please send to: 11th March

(Up to 20 words max)

To Candy Brown, South London Press, Yeoman House, 6th Floor, 63 Croydon Road, Penge SE20 7TS  
Or [Candy.brown@slp.co.uk](mailto:Candy.brown@slp.co.uk) (Phone calls are not accepted). Book early to avoid disappointment. Limited space available.



## HEALTH AND WELLBEING THE FLYING YOGI, NEW YOGA AND PILATES STUDIO



Kasia is joined by a team of thoughtful, learned, attentive teachers who teach a variety of different styles of yoga and Pilates

# Join a new community of friends at The Flying Yogi

THE latest gem in Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush, is The Flying Yogi (TFY), a boutique studio offering yoga and Pilates classes for the growing number of local residents.

It is open to all, whether totally new to yoga or Pilates or for people looking for a studio close to home. Pregnancy yoga classes will start soon.

TFY is owned and run by Polish-born Kasia Poremna, who has lived in West London for 18 years.

Alongside her passion for

yoga, which she has been teaching for many years, Kasia is a former architect and interior designer.

She designed the studio herself, creating a beautiful haven of calm, simplicity and relaxation – the perfect place to nurture your wellbeing and your fitness.

The studio holds several classes per day, seven days a week. As well as running TFY single-handedly, Kasia teaches many of the classes herself.



Kasia said: "I'm loving a challenge which is helping regenerate the area and bring to it more awareness of healthy and balanced living. At The Flying Yogi we want to get to know our students and build a community of friends who get on their mat together."

Kasia, pictured, is joined by a team of thoughtful, learned, attentive teachers who teach a variety of different styles of yoga and Pilates.

The studio is also

equipped with a state-of-the-art heating system, which uses the most up-to-date technology to offer 'radiant' heat – gentler, more hygienic and less sweaty than that often used in hot yoga and Pilates.

There are different pricing options to meet varying needs and schedules. New students can enjoy unlimited classes for 10 days for just £25. Giving even better value is the range of class-bundles and subscriptions on offer, reducing the cost per class to as little as £6.80.



Goldhawk Road's latest gem is The Flying Yogi (TFY), a boutique studio offering yoga and Pilates classes for a growing number of residents

## Wine & dine

### MARK HIX MBE'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK

#### Chicken Kiev with wild garlic

Serves 4



IT'S about time we had a chicken Kiev revival. It used to be all the rage but it's been absent from restaurant menus for years now and you rarely even see it frozen in supermarkets these days.

I've given the old classic a little seasonal twist here, with a filling made with wild garlic.

*4 free-range chicken breasts with the wing bone on, skinned  
120g butter, softened  
A handful of wild garlic leaves, cleaned and chopped  
3tbsp flour  
1 large egg, beaten  
80-100g fresh white breadcrumbs  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
Vegetable or corn oil for frying*

Lay the chicken breasts on a chopping board with the small loose fillets facing up. Remove these fillets with your fingers and put to one side.

Using a very sharp filleting knife or similar, cut up – but not right through – and inside from the centre on either side of the breast to form two flaps you can fold open and then back again, over the filling.

Mix the softened butter with the wild garlic and season.

Put the mixture in the middle of the opened-up breast and, using the palm of your hand, flatten the little fillet that was removed and lay it over the butter.

Fold the flaps back over the fillet to reform the breast and make sure it is perfectly sealed. Leave to rest in the fridge for 30 to 40 minutes.

Have three dishes ready, one with the flour spread out on it, one with the beaten egg, and the third with the breadcrumbs.

Season the stuffed breasts and coat them in the flour, dusting off any excess, then put them through the egg and finally through the breadcrumbs.

Pre-heat about 8cm of vegetable oil in a thick-bottomed saucepan or electric fryer to 160C to 180C.

Deep fry the chicken for six to seven minutes until golden.

Serve with a vegetable such as creamed or leaf spinach or a mixture of seasonal vegetables.





# Property

## Don't make home security the last thing on your list

**H**OME security is 43rd on the list of things we think about when moving house – with Brits more concerned about whether their new neighbours will be able to see them sunbathing in the garden.

A poll of 2,000 adults reveals the top 50 things people consider when changing address.

The top priority is easy parking, followed by concerns over the council-tax banding.

But the issue of home security comes extremely low on the list, beneath considerations such as what supermarkets are nearby and how much decorating is required.

Family minded Brits are also far more concerned about how close they'll be to mum and dad than how safe they'll be in the new property.

And once settled into their new home, 70 per cent don't bother to install a burglar alarm and 16 per cent don't lock the doors and windows when they leave the house.

Nigel Fisher – managing-director of home-security specialist Yale, which conducted the study – said: “We weren't expecting home security to be the first thing on people's minds when moving house but it has



come much lower in the top-50 list than we'd have predicted.

“On the one hand it is reassuring that ‘what the local crime rates are like’ has appeared in the top 10, as this would suggest some level of concern about safety. But we would always advise checking out the local neighbourhood for signs of well-maintained buildings.

“In addition, check door locks are up to insurance standards, and check windows and front doors for signs of break-ins.”

Broadband speed is a key consideration and 48 per cent factor in how noisy the neighbours are likely to be, while the ‘class’ of neighbours is important to 22 per cent.

One in five don't want to move into a property which has young children next door and many check if the neighbours could see them sunbathing in the garden.

Whether or not a king-size bed will fit in the master bedroom and the sofa will fit through the patio doors also feature in the top-50 list.

More than a third admit the last time they moved house they were more preoccupied about where things would go in the new property than home security.

A further 64 per cent admit they don't have much outside lighting, 57 per cent don't have any trusted neighbours to keep an eye on the property and 73 per cent don't think to put lights and radios on timers when they go away.

Mr Fisher said: “Home Office figures have highlighted that you are almost twice as likely to be burgled in the first 12 months of being in a new home, so security should be at the forefront of people's minds when moving.”

### MAIN MOVING PRIORITIES

1. If parking outside is going to be easy
2. The council-tax banding
3. How much it would cost you in total
4. How noisy the neighbours are
5. How recently the boiler was fitted
6. What the local crime rates are like
7. Where the nearest supermarket is
8. What the neighbours are like
9. Do the radiators work properly?
10. Whether there are local regular buses
11. Broadband speed
12. Proximity to the nearest GP surgery
13. Is the home energy efficient?

14. How far away my friends live
15. What types of supermarkets are nearby
16. How long is the new commute?
17. How much decorating to do before the house felt like your own
18. What the removal costs would be
19. How far away from parents I'd live
20. Changing my address on everything
21. Whether I could fit all of my belongings in the new house
22. Will there be enough plug sockets (and where you need them)
23. Whether the property is close enough for existing friends to still visit
24. Whether the immediate neighbours have young children who are likely to scream
25. Whether the carpets will need replacing straight away
26. Is there space for a dishwasher?
27. The ‘class’ of the neighbours
28. Whether the sofa will fit through the patio doors/front door
29. How good the phone reception is
30. Whether there are large imposing trees overlooking the property
31. If my current furniture will look good in the new house
32. Switching all the utility suppliers
33. If the garden is a suitable size for the dog to run around in
34. How much is the building insurance
35. Proximity to the nearest primary/secondary schools

### Landlords - Tenants Wanted

## CALLING ALL LANDLORDS

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## Local Planning Applications London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham



### PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

**I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows: FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA**

**13 Doneraile Street London SW6 6EL 2016/02594/FUL**  
Erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; raised brickwork to rear roof extension; installation of a new rooflight and a dormer window to replace the existing dormer window in the rear roof slope; erection of a single storey rear extension; alterations to the roof of single storey back addition to include the installation of new roof lanterns; replacement of existing poly carbonate roof of the bike store with a new glass roof on timber rafters to the side of the main building; erection of a new boundary wall with railings on top and installation of a new entrance gate at ground floor level to the front elevation; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

**17 Greenside Road London W12 9JQ 2017/00587/FUL**  
Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level on top of the existing back addition; and installation of 3no. rooflights in the rear roof slope.

**M&S White City Site 54 Wood Lane London W12 7RQ 2017/00557/ADV**  
Display of advertisements on the existing hoarding.

**Albert Wharf Wandsworth Bridge Road London SW6 2TY 2017/00498/FUL**  
Use of Albert Wharf for a temporary event for a temporary period from 10 April to 2 October 2017.

Temporary installation of small, transparent, mobile, dome structures interspersed throughout the site for seating.

**4 MacLise Road London W14 0PR 2017/00647/FUL**  
Change of use of basement from an Office (Class B1) to a Dental Surgery (Class D1), ancillary to the existing Dental Surgery at ground floor level.

**Adjacent To 1D Shepherd's Bush Road London W6 7NA 2017/00724/FUL56**  
Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 168 - 188 Fulham Palace Road London W6 9PA 2017/00749/FUL56**  
Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 158 Uxbridge Road London W12 8AA 2017/00750/FUL56**  
Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 126 Uxbridge Road London W12 8AA 2017/00751/FUL56**  
Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 53 Fulham Broadway London SW6 1AE 2017/00752/FUL56**  
Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Corner Of Fulham Road And Waterford Road London SW6 5UB 2017/00753/FUL56**  
Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Stadium House 68 Wood Lane London W12 7TA 2017/00744/FUL**  
Installation of 3no windows, 2no roller door shutters with external ramps, 1no air handling unit, formation of a caged enclosure and partial brick infill to north eastern elevation; installation of new doors and a ramp to south eastern elevation; installation of new handrails and an access ramp to south western elevation of the building.

**73 Brook Green London W6 7BE 2017/00747/FUL**  
Alterations to the front boundary wall to include the installation of new posts, railings and pedestrian entrance gate to replace the existing.

**83 Crabtree Lane London SW6 6LR 2017/00688/FUL**  
Alterations to the front elevation of the building to include the installation of a new door with fanlight above and a window to replace the existing door and installation of a new window to the side elevation at ground floor level.

**386 Fulham Palace Road London SW6 6HU 2017/00683/FUL**  
Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; installation of 3no rooflights in the front roof slope.

**Flat Ground Floor 30 Ravenscourt Gardens London W6 0TU 2017/00606/VAR**

Variation of condition 2 of planning permission ref: 2015/00324/FUL granted 23rd March 2015 to include: reducing the size and increasing the height of the new ground floor extension, installation of new doors to the rear and side elevation, and alterations to the roof rooflight above the roof of single storey back addition.

**Flat A First Floor 30 Ravenscourt Gardens London W6 0TU 2017/00607/FUL**

Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; installation of 2no rooflights in the front roof slope; alterations to the roof of back addition to incorporate a flat roof and increase the height of the parapet wall, erection of privacy screen around the flat roof at second floor level to the rear elevation in connection with its use as a terrace; relocation of 1no window and bricking up of 1no window to the side of rear back addition at first floor level.

**676 - 680 Fulham Road London SW6 5SA 2017/00632/FUL**

Change of use from an English language school (Class D1) at first and second floor levels into 8 self-contained residential units (5 x 1 bedroom and 3 x 2 bedroom flats); erection of a roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height together with the installation of rooflights in the roof slopes to no. 676 Fulham Road and rear extension at second floor level to no. 678 Fulham Road; formation of roof terraces at first, second and third floor level; installation double glazed windows to replace the existing to all elevations of the building; installation of a hardwood timber door at ground floor level and an extract flue to the side of the building to replace the existing, installation of new glazed windows and a security entrance gate to the northern elevation; installation of 2no timber doors to replace the existing door and a window at ground floor level, installation of new glazed windows at ground floor level to the eastern elevation; installation of a new louvred door, weatherboard screening, louver screen covering ac units at ground floor level to the western elevation; installation of a new window to the southern elevation at first floor level; installation new doors to access the roof terraces at first and second floor level to the western and southern elevations; associated external alterations to fenestration of the building.

**Hand And Flower 617 King's Road London SW6 2ES 2017/00622/VAR**

Variation of condition 2 of planning permission ref: 2016/00842/FUL granted 26th October 2016 to include: partial demolition and rebuilding of the ground, first and second floor level at the side of the existing public house together with an increase in height of the second floor level and alterations to the external fenestration.

**50 Dewhurst Road London W14 0ES 2017/00649/FUL**

Further excavation and enlargement of rear part of the existing basement.

**Outside 206 Uxbridge Road London W12 7JD 2017/00677/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Opposite 292 Wandsworth Bridge Road London SW6 2UA 2017/00679/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 75 King Street London W6 9HW 2017/00680/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 181 Hammersmith Road London W6 8BT 2017/00682/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**84 Claxton Grove London W6 8HE 2017/00662/FUL**

Erection of a rear roof extension, involving an increase in the ridge height; installation of three rooflights in the front roof slope; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of existing back addition; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side of the existing back addition.

**79 Bloemfontein Road London W12 7DA 2017/00627/VAR**

Variation of the wording of Condition 4 of planning permission reference: 2013/05572/FUL granted 24th December 2013, to read as, "No customers shall be on the premises in connection with the operation of the approved use as a Dental

Surgery (Class D1) other than between 08:00 hours and 20:00 hours Monday to Friday, and between 08:00 hours and 17:00 hours on Saturdays."

**Flat Second Floor 54 Southerton Road London W6 0PH 2017/00521/FUL**

Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back addition; formation of a roof terrace at third floor level to the rear elevation.

**2 Normand Mews London W14 9RB 2017/00624/FUL**

Replacement of 2no windows with new windows at first floor level, installation of a new window to replace the existing doors to garage at the front elevation in connection with the conversion of the existing garage into a habitable room; alterations to the roof of single storey back addition; erection of new timber fencing to replace the existing privacy screens around the roof of back addition in connection with the enlargement of the existing terrace; installation of new doors to replace the existing door and window at first floor level to the rear elevation; installation of a new rooflight above the main roof.

**39 Hemlock Road London W12 0QS 2017/00593/FUL**

Erection of a single storey extension with a roof lantern to the side and rear of the main building; erection of a front porch; and installation of 2no. rooflights in the rear roof slope.

**14 Caithness Road London W14 0JA 2017/00509/FUL**

Excavation of part of front garden to form a new store room; alterations and extension of the front boundary wall; erection railings on top of the front boundary wall; installation of a new metal pedestrian entrance gate.

**134 Stamford Brook Arches Ravenscourt Park London W6 0TQ 2017/00303/FUL**

Use of part of the existing motorbike and scooter workshop as an MOT test centre.

**8 South Park Mews London SW6 3AY 2017/00745/FUL**

Conversion of the existing garage at ground floor level into a habitable room; replacement of the garage door to the front elevation at ground floor level with a window; installation of bin and metre storage cupboard to the front elevation.

**Flat Second Floor 193 Hammersmith Grove London W6 0NP 2017/00420/FUL**

Erection of an additional floor at roof level.

**28 Ravenscourt Gardens London W6 0TU 2017/00608/FUL**

Erection of a single storey extension to the side of the main building; installation of a new window to the side of the existing single storey back addition.

**32 Reporton Road London SW6 7JR 2017/00539/FUL**

Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of glass screening around flat roof at second floor level in connection with its use as a terrace; erection of a single storey rear extension at lower ground floor level.

**78 North End Road London W14 9ES 2017/00612/ADV**

Display of a non-illuminated advertisement shroud measuring 6.75 metres high by 9.05 metres wide on scaffolding on the front elevation for a temporary period of eleven months between 13th April 2017 and 12th March 2018.

**18 Ifley Road London W6 0PA 2017/00613/FUL**

Erection of a rear roof extension, involving an increase in the ridge height; and installation of 2no. rooflights in the front roof slope.

**Durham Wharf Chiswick Mall London W6 9UD 2017/00362/FUL**

Demolition of existing single storey double pitch building used for live/work purposes as artists' accommodation and studios and replacement with a new two storey single pitch building with same use; erection of a roof extension to the west elevation of the existing two storey single pitch building also used for live/work purposes as artists' accommodation and studios.

**Outside 323 Fulham Palace Road London SW6 6TJ 2017/00672/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside Unit 19 - The Broadway West 12 Shopping Centre Shepherd's Bush Green London W12 8PH 2017/00665/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Public Highway 111 Hammersmith Road London W14 0QH 2017/00667/TEL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 321 King Street London W6 9NH 2017/00668/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 113 Lillie Road London SW6 7SX 2017/00669/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 33 Shepherd's Bush Green London W12 8PH 2017/00670/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 291 King Street London W6 9NH 2017/00671/FUL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 15 Shepherd's Bush Road London W6 7LX 2017/00674/TEL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Outside 66 Hammersmith Road London W14 8UD 2017/00675/TEL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**5 Queensmill Road London SW6 6JP 2017/00524/FUL**

Erection of a front roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; alterations to part of the roof of back addition to incorporate a flat roof and the erection of privacy screen around the flat roof at second floor level to the rear elevation in connection with its use as a terrace; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side and rear of the existing back addition; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement; erection of an external staircase from basement to ground floor level at the rear of the property; alterations to the roof of the single storey back addition; installation of a new window to replace the existing to the side of rear back addition, installation of new doors and a Juliet balcony to replace the existing windows to the rear elevation at first floor level.

**Post Office 7 King's Parade Askew Road London W12 9BA 2017/00708/FUL**

Installation of an ATM machine to the front elevation.

**82 Wandsworth Bridge Road London SW6 2TF 2017/00717/FUL**

Retention of 3no air conditioning units to the side of the single storey back addition at ground floor level.

**593 - 599 Fulham Road London SW6 5UA 2017/00698/FUL**

Replacement of the two existing ATM machines with two new ATM machines.

**FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT (DEMOLITION WORK) FOR LISTED BUILDING**

**Consent For Development Which May Affect The Setting Or Context Of A Listed Building**

**4 MacLise Road London W14 0PR 2017/00647/FUL**

Change of use of basement from an Office (Class B1) to a Dental Surgery (Class D1), ancillary to the existing Dental Surgery at ground floor level.

**Outside 53 Fulham Broadway London SW6 1AE 2017/00752/TEL56**

Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**185 Uxbridge Road London W12 9RA 2017/00519/FUL**

Change of use of first and second floors from commercial (Class B1) to residential (Class C3) consisting of 2no. two bedroom self-contained flats and 1no. one bedroom self-contained flat; erection of a rear dormer roof extension together with a rear balcony enclosed with a metal balustrade; erection of a two storey glazed rear extension to the side of the back addition at ground floor and basement level; installation of three rooflights to the front roof slope; and installation of a residential entrance door to the front elevation at ground floor level.

**185 Uxbridge Road London W12 9RA 2017/00520/FUL**

Erection of a two storey glazed rear extension to the side of the back addition at ground floor and basement level; and installation of a residential entrance door to the front elevation at ground floor level.

**5 Lilyville Road London SW6 5DP 2017/00594/FUL**

Excavation of the front garden to form a lightwell, in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

**1A Adelaide Grove London W12 0JU 2017/00580/FUL**

Change of use of existing workshop building (Class B2) to office use (Class B1(a)) over two floors and a four bedroom single dwellinghouse

(Class C3) over two floors; external alterations to include replacement of existing roof with a similar corrugated metal roof including the installation of 9no. rooflights; and replacement of other windows and doors.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 28th March 2017. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

**THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013**

**NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13**

**Opposite 114 Goldhawk Road London W12 8HP 2017/00666/TEL56**

I give notice that Maximus Networks Ltd is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Public Telephone Boxes Adjacent To Kings Mall 26 King Street London 2017/00676/TEL56**

I give notice that Maximus Networks Ltd is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Adjacent To Beadon Road Britannia House London W6 0LH 2017/00673/TEL56**

I give notice that Maximus Networks Ltd is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Opposite 28 Shepherd's Bush Green London W12 8PH 2017/00681/TEL56**

I give notice that Maximus Networks Ltd is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Opposite 51 Wood Lane London W12 7DP 2017/00686/TEL56**

I give notice that Maximus Networks Ltd is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**Opposite Block A Peabody Estate Lillie Road London SW6 1TU 2017/00689/TEL56**

I give notice that Maximus Networks Ltd is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Installation of a telephone kiosk.

**235A Scrubs Lane London W10 6AH 2017/00605/ADV**

I give notice that Mr Paul O' Sullivan is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Display of an internally illuminated digital led screen measuring 4.5m (height) x 3m (width) x 0.45m (depth) onto an existing structure to south eastern elevation to replace the existing advertisement screen.

**185 Uxbridge Road London W12 9RA 2017/00519/FUL**

I give notice that Mr Wah Ploew Tan is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Change of use of first and second floors from commercial (Class B1) to residential (Class C3) consisting of 2no. two bedroom self-contained flats and 1no. one bedroom self-contained flat; erection of a rear dormer roof extension together with a rear balcony enclosed with a metal balustrade; erection of a two storey glazed rear extension to the side of the back addition at ground floor and basement level; installation of three rooflights to the front roof slope; and installation of a residential entrance door to the front elevation at ground floor level.

**185 Uxbridge Road London W12 9RA 2017/00520/FUL**

I give notice that Mr Wah Ploew Tan is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Erection of a two storey glazed rear extension to the side of the back addition at ground floor and basement level; and installation of a residential entrance door to the front elevation at ground floor level.

**185 Uxbridge Road London W12 9RA 2017/00520/FUL**

I give notice that Mr Wah Ploew Tan is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Erection of a two storey glazed rear extension to the side of the back addition at ground floor and basement level; and installation of a residential entrance door to the front elevation at ground floor level.

**Palingswood House 241 King Street London W6 9LP 2017/00693/VAR**

I give notice that Ms Stacey Raggett is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following

development: Variation of condition 6 of planning permission ref: 2012/02503/FUL granted 17th December 2012 to allow a total number of 650 pupils to be enrolled and accommodated at the school at any one time.

The proposal constitutes a major development.

**777 Fulham Road London SW6 5HA 2017/00609/FUL**

I give notice that Boncash Ltd is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Change of use of part of the ground floor from retail (Class A1) into a self-contained studio flat; alterations to the roof and rear part of the ground floor back addition to include the installation of new doors and windows.

**1A Adelaide Grove London W12 0JU 2017/00580/FUL**

I give notice that Mrs Tania Payne is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Change of use of existing workshop building (Class B2) to office use (Class B1(a)) over two floors and a four bedroom single dwellinghouse (Class C3) over two floors; external alterations to include replacement of existing roof with a similar corrugated metal roof including the installation of 9no. rooflights; and replacement of other windows and doors.

**355 Lillie Road London SW6 7PA 2017/00573/FUL**

I give notice that Mr Blaze Stojanovski is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back addition; formation of a roof terrace at third floor level to the rear elevation; installation of a new window to replace the existing windows to the side of rear back addition at first floor level; conversion of the first, second and third floor level into 1 x two bedroom and 1 x three bedroom self-contained flats.

**Unit 4 Ground Floor Coda Studios 189 Munster Road London SW6 6YA 2017/00547/FUL**

I give notice that Mr David Dalrymple is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Use of part of the public highway for the placing of 5no tables and 8no chairs; installation of canopies to the front side elevations; installation of a new glazed doors to replace the existing doors to the front elevation; change hinge to bottom horizontal pivot of window, installation of new decking with floor lights and erection of panels to south eastern elevation.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 28th March 2017. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

Signed: JULIEMMA MCLOUGHLIN

*Director for Planning and Development on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL*

You can view applications, make comments and monitor their progress on our website: [www.lbfh.gov.uk/planning](http://www.lbfh.gov.uk/planning). Click on the 'Planning Home Page'.

You can also E-mail comments to: [plancomments@lbfh.gov.uk](mailto:plancomments@lbfh.gov.uk)

You can also inspect details of applications using computers at our office RECEPTION FIRST FLOOR HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL EXTENSION KING STREET W6 between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

If you want to make comments on applications please E-mail them through our website or post them to DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TOWN HALL KING STREET W6 9JU by the date shown above.

Please include the application reference number and the name of the planning officer. We will try to consider any representations received after the date indicated but this cannot be guaranteed so please reply promptly. For initial enquiries call our information and reception service on 020 8753 1081 or 020 8753 1082.

**planning** [lbfh.gov.uk/](http://lbfh.gov.uk/)  
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Send us your comments about planning applications via our website: [www.lbfh.gov.uk/planning](http://www.lbfh.gov.uk/planning)



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## Transport for London Notice

### ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

**THE GLA ROADS AND GLA SIDE ROADS (KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA) RED ROUTE CONSOLIDATION TRAFFIC ORDER 2008 A4 GLA ROAD (CROMWELL ROAD) VARIATION ORDER 2017**

1. Transport for London, hereby gives notice on 28th February it made the above named Order under section 6 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Order will come into force on 10th March 2017.
2. The general nature and effect of the Order will be to amend the hours of operation of the bus parking bays:
  - a) Opposite No. 35 Cromwell Road, from No Stopping Mon - Sat 8am - 7pm Except buses max 20 mins no return in 40 to No Stopping At Any Time Except buses pick up or set down only
  - b) Opposite No. 29 Cromwell Road, from No Stopping Mon - Sat 8am - 7pm Except buses max 20 mins no return in 40 to No Stopping At Any Time Except buses pick up or set down only
3. The road which would be affected by the Order is A4 Cromwell Road in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.
4. A copy of the Order, a statement of Transport for London's reasons for the proposals, a map indicating the location and effect of the Order and copies of any Order revoked, suspended or varied by the Order can be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of:

• Transport for London  
Streets Traffic Order Team  
(RSM/PI/STOT)  
Palestra,  
197 Blackfriars Road  
London, SE1 8NJ

• Director for Transport and  
Highways  
Transport and Highways  
Royal Borough of Kensington &  
Chelsea  
Room 114  
Council Offices  
37 Pembroke Road  
London W8 6PW

5. Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or of any of its provisions on the grounds that they are not within the relevant powers conferred by the Act or that any requirement of the Act has not been complied with, that person may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order is made, make application for the purpose to the High Court.

**Dated this 7th day of March 2017**

**Mufu Durowoju**

**Network Impact Management Team Manager  
Road Space Management - Operations, Transport for London  
Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8NJ**

MAYOR OF LONDON



TRANSPORT  
FOR LONDON

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (CARNWATH ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate sewer lining works to be carried out in the above named road; it made an Order the effect of which will prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Carnwath Road outside the Piper Building.
3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Peterborough Road, Sullivan Road and Broomhouse Lane.
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The will come into operation on the 11th March 2017 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works will commence on Saturday 11th March 2017 and last for 2 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle  
Chief Transport Planner  
Transport and Highways

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (WAITING AND LOADING RESTRICTION) (CONSOLIDATION) AMENDMENT (No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "AA")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "A")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "D")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "I")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "K")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "L")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "M")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "N")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "Q")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "R")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "S")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "V")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "W")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "Z")  
(AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (FREE PARKING PLACES)(DISABLED PERSONS)  
(CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PERSONALISED DISABLED PERSONS' FREE  
PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

**THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PROHIBITION OF STOPPING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS)  
(CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT No. \*) ORDER 20\*\***

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above-mentioned Orders under the powers granted by sections 6, 45, 46, 49 and 124 of, and Part IV of Schedule 9 to, the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Waiting and Loading Restriction) (Consolidation) (Amendment No. \*) Order 20\*\* would be to further amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Waiting and Loading Restriction) (Consolidation) Order 2008 so that waiting and/or loading restrictions would be amended and/or introduced and/or revoked in certain lengths of King Street, Black's Road, Dymock Road, Hugon Road, Peterborough Road, Fowglove Street, Milfoil Street, Ranelagh Gardens, Hartswodd Road, Wormholt Road and Watermeadow Road.
3. The general effect of the above proposed Parking Places Orders would be to further amend each of their parent orders in so far that parking places would be amended and/or introduced and/or revoked in certain lengths of Rowan Road, Black's Road, Dymock Street, Hugon Road, Peterborough Road, Hartswodd Road, Wormholt Road, Watermeadow Lane, Waldo Road, Margravine Gardens, Hammersmith Grove, Paddenswick Road, Erconwald Street, Sullivan Road, Eddiscombe Road, Kevedon Road, Edith Row, Sawley Road and Bagley's Lane.
4. The general effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Free Parking Places) (Disabled Persons) (Consolidation) (Amendment No. \*) Order 20\*\* would be to amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Free Parking Places) (Disabled Persons) (Consolidation) Order 2011 by relocating a designated disabled persons parking places in Standish Road
5. The general effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Personalised Disabled Persons' Free Parking Places) (Consolidation) (Amendment No. \*) Order 20\*\* would be to amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Personalised Disabled Persons' Free Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2011 by revoking a personalised disabled persons parking places in Standish Road
6. The general effect of the The Hammersmith and Fulham (Prohibition of Stopping Outside Schools) Order 20\*\* would be to amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Prohibition of Stopping Outside Schools) Order 2011, so as to introduce new "School Keep Clear" markings in Commonwealth Avenue, India Way, Canada Way and Burlington Road.
7. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
8. Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following  
Transport and Highways Department, Environmental Services, Town Hall Extension,  
King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU -  
until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2017.

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle  
Chief Transport Planner  
Transport and Highways



# Public Notices

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

### SECTION 14(1)

#### THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (BECKLOW GARDENS ESTATE ) (OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20\*\*

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham made the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Orders that comes into operation on 07 March 2017 is to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Becklow Gardens Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
3. The parking restrictions on the Becklow Gardens Estate will operate (without any changes) as follows:
  - (a) the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm;
  - (b) every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
  - (c) parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
  - (d) only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or an valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone V SMART Visitor permit relating to the Becklow Gardens Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
  - (f) resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Becklow Gardens Estate;
  - (g) resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Becklow Gardens Estate;
  - (h) A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
  - (i) where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
4. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for making the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the Order, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made.
5. Any person wishing to object to the Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:  
Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle  
Chief Transport Planner  
Transport and Highways

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

### SECTION 14(1)

#### THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (BECKLOW GARDENS ESTATE ) (OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20\*\*

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham made the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Orders that comes into operation on 07 March 2017 is to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Becklow Gardens Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
3. The parking restrictions on the Becklow Gardens Estate will operate (without any changes) as follows:
  - (a) the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm;
  - (b) every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
  - (c) parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
  - (d) only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or an valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone V SMART Visitor permit relating to the Becklow Gardens Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
  - (f) resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Becklow Gardens Estate;
  - (g) resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Becklow Gardens Estate;
  - (h) A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
  - (i) where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
4. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for making the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the Order, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made.
5. Any person wishing to object to the Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:  
Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle  
Chief Transport Planner  
Transport and Highways

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

### SECTION 14(1)

#### THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (EMLYN GARDENS ESTATE) (OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20\*\*

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham made the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Order that comes into operation on 07 March 2017 is to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Emlyn Gardens Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
3. The parking restrictions on the Emlyn Gardens Estate will operate (without any changes) as follows:
  - (a) the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm;
  - (b) every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
  - (c) parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
  - (d) only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or an valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone I SMART Visitor permit relating to the Emlyn Gardens Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
  - (f) resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Emlyn Gardens Estate;
  - (g) resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Emlyn Gardens Estate;
  - (h) A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
  - (i) where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
4. A copy of the Order, the Councils statement of reasons for making the Order and documents giving more detailed particulars of the Order, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made.
5. Any person wishing to object to the Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:  
Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle  
Chief Transport Planner  
Transport and Highways

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

### SECTION 14(1)

#### THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (KELMSCOTT GARDENS) (OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20\*\*

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham made the above Order under sections 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Orders that comes into operation on 07 March 2017 is to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Kelmescott Gardens Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
3. The parking restrictions on the Kelmescott Gardens Estate will operate (without any changes) as follows:
  - (a) the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm;
  - (b) every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
  - (c) parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
  - (d) only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or an valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone I SMART Visitor permit relating to the Kelmescott Gardens Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
  - (f) resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Kelmescott Gardens Estate;
  - (g) resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Kelmescott Gardens Estate;
  - (h) A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
  - (i) where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
4. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for making the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the Order, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made.
5. Any person wishing to object to the Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:  
Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle  
Chief Transport Planner  
Transport and Highways



Email your sports news, reports and pictures to Tony McDonald at [sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk)

SATURDAY was a special occasion at Queens Park Rangers – and one former hero in particular was at the centre of the celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of the club's greatest triumph.

Mark Lazarus received a standing ovation from fans as he made his way to the centre-circle holding a replica of the League Cup trophy Rangers won in 1967 and a commemorative replica white shirt bearing his name.

In last week's *LWN*, former right-winger Lazarus recalled his personal satisfaction in scoring the winning goal against West Bromwich Albion that etched Rangers' name in the history books as the first Division Three side to win a Wembley cup final.

Ten minutes into last Saturday's 2-1 victory over Cardiff City, QPR supporters applauded in memory of another all-time favourite who graced the Loftus Road turf with style and guile. Stan Bowles is fighting a losing battle with Alzheimer's but the fans will continue to press the club to stage a benefit match that would at least help pay towards his ongoing care.

Although Bowles and Lazarus never played in the same team, they have shared a table at a number of club reunions. And Lazarus has sympathy for Bowles' plight. "I've been on the same table as Stan at five or six dogs and we get on quite well. I feel sorry for the state he is in," said Lazarus, puffing away on another cigar as we reflect at his Romford home. "But Stan is not the greatest player to pull on the QPR shirt."

According to Lazarus, that distinction belongs to his former team-mate and fellow 1967 cup legend Rodney Marsh, the superstar who handed his coveted No 10 shirt to Bowles when he left for Manchester City in the early 1970s. "Without a doubt, Rodney is the best I've ever played with."

"We always knew what he was capable of from his brief time at Fulham. He was a clown. He'd bounce the ball up and down on his knees, flick it up in the air and volley it in the back of the net. But that

# ‘Remember me as an entertainer’

In the second, and final, part of his forthright interview with *LWN*'s Tony McDonald, **MARK LAZARUS** compares two fellow Rangers legends and reveals his past battle against antisemitism

wasn't how (Fulham manager) Vic Buckingham liked to play, so they clashed.

"I made a lot of goals for him – one season he scored 47. He would do things in training that were amazing – flicks, nutmegs, the lot – and on the pitch he made opponents look silly.

"He was well liked in the dressing room, one of the chaps. I had a very good relationship with Rodney and his dad, Bill.

"Rodney was a great player. You can't compare him to Stan Bowles, because there is no comparison. Yes, Stan was a very good player – I played against him – but he wasn't half as talented as Rodney.

"Stan was more of a passer. But Bowles couldn't do some of the things that Rodney could. In terms of skill, Stan wasn't fit to lace Rodney's boots."

QPR fans idolised Lazarus for his skilful endeavour, combative style and flamboyant reputation as one of the game's great characters who ignited the crowd.

"I liked to play football with a smile on my face and wanted the fans to enjoy the game, too," he said. "I've read that I used to do a lap of honour around the ground each time I scored but that's a load of crap. I'd celebrate by running along the touchline, shaking hands with the fans, or bowing or waving to them. It was my

way of showing my appreciation. I enjoyed the adulation and still do."

In between two stints with Leyton Orient at opposite ends of a 15-season pro career spanning from 1957 until 1972 and almost 500 games, he had three spells with QPR, spent a couple of years each with Brentford and Crystal Palace, plus an unhappy five months at Division One Wolves.

Stepney-born Lazarus was one of eight brothers from a family steeped in boxing. His grandfather on his mother's side was a bare-fisted champion of the East End. In the 1950s, Lazarus' elder brothers Lew and Harry fought for British welterweight and middleweight titles under the name of Lazar.

Mark Lazarus turned out for Fulham and Chelsea's youth teams, and the same Hainault-based Sunday side as Jimmy Greaves. But it was while Lazarus was appearing for non-League Barking that then-Leyton Orient boss Alec Stock spotted the uncompromising winger's talent. That's when Lazarus was forced to quit as an undefeated amateur boxer and concentrate on football for a living.

When Stock became manager of QPR, he brought Lazarus across the capital to join him at Loftus Road. Stock sold him and bought him back on two subsequent occasions in the 1960s before finally releasing him to Crystal Palace six months after they had tasted Wembley glory.

"But I never once asked to leave QPR. Alec sold me each time because the club needed the money," he points out.

Lazarus' combination of quick feet and fist movement, allied to a fiery temperament, earned him a bad-boy tag in his younger playing days and would land him in trouble with the football authorities on numerous occasions. As the most successful high-profile Jewish player of his era, he was targeted for abuse by opponents and rival fans.

Although Mark, whose grandparents were eastern European immigrants, didn't have a Jewish upbringing, nor was he barmitzvah, he remains proud of his heritage. "I'm sure certain managers must have encouraged their left-backs to try to wind me up but I didn't retaliate.

"And I tried to ignore derogatory comments from the crowd, although I did snap



QPR and Cardiff line up before Saturday's game to join the Loftus Road crowd in a minute's applause for the deceased members of Rangers' 1967 League Cup-winning team  
Picture: Rob Newell

once while playing for QPR at Halifax Town. I went to the barrier and was having a go back at this abusive fan when Alec Stock dragged me away. And, as he did so, he gave me a clip round the ear and told me to get back on the pitch."

Lazarus gives an insight into the shameful extent of the verbal assaults he had to endure on the football field: "They would make comments like 'You stinking Jew bastard' and 'You shouldn't be here, your parents should've suffered with all the others in the ovens' and things like that. I mean, today it wouldn't be allowed. But referees used to allow it to go on."

"I wouldn't be able to play in the modern game – they wouldn't have me. I wasn't the type to run back into my own half to help out my full-back, like wingers do today. I wasn't a good defender at all."

Now 78, Lazarus married Fay in 1959 and the couple, who live at Romford, have two children – son Nicky (the former snooker star who runs the family business, Mark Lazarus & Son Removals & Storage, following his dad's retirement) and daughter Dena. There are five grandchildren: Remy, Tyler, Louis, Ryan and Blair.

Given all the buzz surrounding the 1967 anniversary, it's been a hectic and enjoyable few weeks for Mark Lazarus, capped by his emotional return to W12 last weekend. It was a measure of his wholehearted endeavour, as well as his skill and showmanship qualities, that he remains a popular character with fans of all his former clubs.

He said: "It means a lot to me that I always receive such a great reception and am made very welcome whenever I go back to QPR. I wasn't the greatest or prettiest of players but I was one of the most exciting to watch."

"I hope their fans remember me as a player who had a lot of heart, who would never back out of a challenge and would get in there where it hurts. And for being exciting and uplifting, someone who would get them roaring when I had the ball at my feet. Above all, an entertainer."

## Rangers show White spirit



QUEENS Park Rangers paid a fitting tribute to their legends of 1967 by coming from behind to beat Cardiff City 2-1 at Loftus Road on Saturday and complete their first double over the Bluebirds in 10 years.

Wearing a special one-off all-white strip in honour of the their League Cup-winning heroes of 50 years ago, QPR moved nine points clear of the relegation zone thanks to their third victory in four games.

Substitute Yeni Ngbakoto – a 58th-minute replacement for debutant Sean Goss – created one goal and scored another as Rangers ruined Neil Warnock's return to W12.

Rangers' manager Ian Holloway fully embraced this nostalgic occasion and praised the added significance of the win, saying: "Those players left a legacy and I want these players to leave a legacy in the months and years to come."

"I want to thank the ex-players and the families who came along today – that was for them. And all the QPR fans who came here today to pay tribute to our heroes of 1967 deserved it too."

"It's a result to savour. To win in that special commemorative shirt today fills me with so much pride."

Sol Bamba put in-form Cardiff ahead with a soaring header from 12 yards following a corner just before the interval. But Rangers levelled when French winger Ngbakoto smashed the ball home after a fine team move and final pass from Jamie Mackie.

Matt Smith headed the winner – courtesy of a deflection off Jazz Richards – from Ngbakoto's corner, the striker's third goal in four since moving from Fulham in January.

While it could never compare to the heroic comeback against West Bromwich Albion at Wembley, where Rangers fought from two down to become 3-2 history-makers, take nothing away from this latest rousing display of white spirit. It was the first time QPR have come from behind to win a League game since October 2015 (v Bolton Wanderers).

Holloway said: "Yeni made a real difference and I'm pleased for him because he's worked so hard in recent weeks. He's been patient but today he got his reward. He's bought into what I want him to do and that's really special for me. Smithy was brilliant all afternoon. He set Conor (Washington) alight and they looked great together again."

"We've got some really good choices now in the final third but, more importantly, each and every player in my squad is consistently doing the right things in training day in, day out – and that fills me with immense pride."

Rangers hope to keep the feelgood factor going tonight (Tuesday), when 11th-placed Barnsley visit Shepherd's Bush, before a tough test at high-flying Leeds United on Saturday.

**Tony McDonald**

## Lots of positives for Hoists

HAMMERSMITH Hills Hoists rugby league team are preparing for their 2017 season, which begins next month and is being billed as one of the most competitive in Southern Premier League history.

With the disbandment of the National Conference League seeing the return of a familiar foe in London Chargers, and Hoists having fallen just short of the Premiership last season, the Hammersmith club are eager to put their mark on the upcoming season.

Things are looking positive for the men in green and gold. Players' player of the year Nathan Mann and coaches' player of the year Brody Baker have both re-signed for the club and are keen continue their impressive form.

Other positives are the continuation of sponsorship from Belushi's Hammersmith, Anglo Pacific, Stoke Travel and the addition of another high-profile sponsor in Element Construction, which means that playing for the club remains free of charge.

Hoists host their registration night on Thursday, March 9 (6.30pm) at Belushi's bar (28 Hammersmith Broadway, W6 7AB), where they are welcoming any new members who are interested in joining London's most famous amateur rugby league club.

If you are interested in getting involved in rugby league this year in any capacity, Hoists welcome all newcomers. For more details, contact the club via Facebook ([facebook.com/hoistsrlfc](https://www.facebook.com/hoistsrlfc)) or Twitter (@hoistsrlfc), or email [hillshoistsrlfc@hotmail.com](mailto:hillshoistsrlfc@hotmail.com).



# London Weekly News

# SPORT

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● SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427

Antonio Conte keeps a close eye on Victor Moses, one of the stars of this title-chasing campaign who recently signed a contract extension

Picture: Rob Newell



Sone Aluko set Fulham on their way to a handsome victory over Preston  
Picture: Rob Newell



## Stylish Whites close the gap

Focus on Craven Cottage

IN-FORM Fulham face Leeds United at home tonight (Tuesday) hoping to close the gap on the Championship's top six.

A typically swashbuckling 3-1 win over Preston at Craven Cottage on Saturday kept Whites seventh in the table, five points behind sixth-placed Sheffield Wednesday and with a game in hand on the Owls.

Free-flowing Fulham are gaining widespread acclaim as the most entertaining side in the second tier, with only leaders Newcastle United having claimed a point more than the 13 the West Londoners have taken from their last six Championship matches.

After hosting fourth-placed Leeds, who are unbeaten in their last four matches, Whites face another stiff test of their promotion credentials when they go to Newcastle on Saturday. Magpies have not lost any of their last 10 in the Championship and currently lead the race to the Premier League by five points from Brighton & Hove Albion.

Even so, Fulham shouldn't head to St James' Park with an inferiority complex. Remember how they shocked the pre-season title favourites by beating them 1-0 at the Cottage on the opening night of the season.

After seeing his side win four consecutive home Championship games for the first time since the period April to September 2012, head coach Slavisa Jokanovic said: "My team are definitely playing with confidence. We are going to keep going and in front of us we are going to have the chance to play two of the top teams in this competition."

"We are going to test ourselves and we are going to find out where we are in this moment."

"I am not such a romantic man. I always want to win the game, so I am always disappointed when we don't come away with three points."

"We can be relatively satisfied as we are around the top six. There is a gap between us and the top six teams and it is our target to push until the end of the season. We are still in a position to keep fighting."

The 20,000-plus at Craven Cottage on Saturday, where Preston's five-game unbeaten run ended along with their faint promotion hopes, certainly got full value. Sone Aluko shot the home side in front on 22 minutes before Chris Martin – set up by the adventurous Ryan Fredericks – netted his 10th Championship goal of the season at the Hammersmith end to double their lead.

Tom Barkhuizen exposed some familiar defensive frailties when he stole in on the blindside and pegged it back to 2-1 midway through the second half but Neeskens Kebano struck 13 minutes from time to seal a well-earned three points and Fulham's fourth win in their last five Championship matches.

Jokanovic said: "I must be satisfied with our performance. We moved the ball and created many chances."

"When Preston scored their goal we were in some trouble for a few minutes but we found a solution. The team showed character and played bravely."

Tony McDonald

# Conte dismisses Inter link

## But Blues' coach admits he's missing absent family

**This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE**

By Paul Lagan

THE race to catch Premier League leaders Chelsea will take a break this weekend as most of the chasing pack will be in FA Cup mode as a spot at Wembley in the semi-finals looms close on the horizon.

Blues faced West Ham United last night, although LWN went to press before the result at the London Stadium was known.

Chelsea take on Jose Mourinho's Manchester United at Stamford Bridge on Monday (7.45pm) in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup, while Arsenal (home v Lincoln City), Manchester City (away to Middlesbrough) and Tottenham Hotspur (home v Millwall) are also in contention for semi-finals places.

Of Blues' main Premier League rivals, only Liverpool, who entertain Burnley on Sunday, have a league fixture this weekend, while Manchester City host Stoke City tomorrow (Wednesday). Even if City are successful, and Blues lost to the Hammers, the boys from SW6 will still be five points clear of their closest title challengers when hostilities resume. Chelsea resume their championship bid with a visit to Stoke on Saturday, March 18 – the day before City and Liverpool clash at The Etihad and Spurs face Southampton at White Hart Lane.

Antonio Conte and midfielder N'Golo Kante won London Manager of the Year and Player of the Year awards respectively last week but the head coach would prefer accolades like these to be handed out when the campaign is over.

"This kind of award is better to give at the end of the season," he said.

"And I hope to give this award to one of my players, all of my players. This season, until now, all my players are playing very well and deserve the best. But it's important in this case to finish the right way and try to win. Only if you win will people remember you."

Unlike their main rivals, Chelsea have had the luxury of preparing for league fixtures and FA Cup ties without the hindrance of a European campaign. It's a double-edged sword for Conte.

"Yes, yes, I miss European football," he said. "For me and my players, yes. The Champions League, I think, must be an appointment for us every year. It must be our house, the Champions League."

"For this reason, we are putting our strength into playing in the Champions League next season. It's a great competition for every player, club and manager, and we want to stay there and try to fight to win it."

Does it hurt to watch the games on television rather than be in the stadium pitting his wits against the best on the continent?

"Yes, I watched the Manchester City game against Monaco live, because I wanted to breathe it in, the right atmosphere, and feel this type of game. In the future, also, I hope to sit and watch games live."

Finishing in the top four was the remit handed down to him from owner Roman Abramovich. Are Chelsea there?

"We started our season trying to fight until the end to win the title, and to try to fight until the end to be in the right position to go into next season's Champions League," he said.

"This was our target. But, for sure, it wasn't easy to start the season and

know that six strong teams fight for the title and the Champions League. Don't forget, in this six teams, two won't play in the Champions League next season. They have to go into the Europa League, which is a bit different to the Champions League. But now this league is very, very difficult. To win the title and find a place to play the Champions League is not easy."

While it's odds-on that Chelsea will be back in the Champions League next season, the question is: will Conte still be head coach at Stamford Bridge?

With his family still in Italy, the lure of home is never far away.

And Inter Milan are sniffing round the former national and Juventus boss.

Conte, however, is well briefed when it comes to defusing speculation.

"I think my situation is very clear," he said in response to the Inter link. "I have a contract with Chelsea. We are trying to build something important with the club, for the present and for the future."

Was there any offer at all?

"Me, personally? No," was his reply. However, he did not say if the club had received an inquiry about his services.

The fact his family is still in Italy is something Conte admits he is not happy about.

"The only problem for me this season was the family missing me. For sure, my family stayed in Italy. I'm working for the future to try to bring them here and to stay together. Family is missing me, this is the truth."

Chelsea are not known for keeping their managers to the end of their contract but Conte hopes he's the exception.

"Every coach, when you start working at a new club, you hope to stay many, many years because it means you are working very well," he said.

"You have the possibility to improve your players, to improve your team, and to grow together. I think this season we are doing this. We are putting a great foundation down for the present and, above all, for the future. In this moment, it's a transition at Chelsea. A season where a lot of players who won a lot here have changed teams."

"So it's normal for every coach to hope to stay many years in a club, to work to improve your players and reach great results, and to win. But you know, especially with things fresh from Ranieri... you have to be ready for anything. But if you ask my opinion, I hope to stay and work for and win a lot for this club."

● VICTOR Moses, the surprise package in the Chelsea side at right wing-back this season, has extended his contract until 2021.

Youngsters Reece James and Conor Gallagher have signed new deals that keep them at Stamford Bridge until 2019.

Both should be part of Jody Morris' squad to play Tottenham Hotspur in the second leg of the FA Youth Cup semi-final on Saturday, March 18. The match at Stamford Bridge will kick-off at 5.15pm. The first leg will be played at White Hart Lane next Tuesday, March 14, at 7.15pm.

With the Under-18 Premier League South section title already won, the Chelsea youngsters are preparing to take on the elite sides in a seven-game league that will determine the national under-18 champions. Also contesting the title, with fixtures yet to be arranged, are Manchester City, Liverpool, Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers, Arsenal and Reading.

The development squad's PL2 game at Liverpool has been deferred by a day, to Monday, March 13 (7pm).